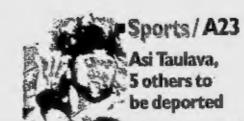
■ Entertalnment/A4-I



■ News / A2

7 Boy Scouts drown during lloilo jamboree



■ Lifestyle / FI

12 Filipinas join illustrious ranks of Towns awardees

Tanong ng Bayan /Al3 Garcia at ibang heneral: Court martial o civil trial?

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Garcia took P44M to US

Wife, 2 sons helped move money, say documents

empii; feedback@inquirer.com.ph

By Fe Zamora and Philip C. Tubeza

\$785,630-or LEAST P43,995,280 million-was transferred to the United States by Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia and his family in the past 11 years, according to documents from an investigation conducted by the Ombudsman.

Citing US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) records, the Ombudsman report said the money was carried by Garcia, his wife Clarita and two of their sons, Ian Carl and Juan Paolo, during six trips to the United States between 1993 and 2004.

The last transaction, involving \$308,000, was brought from the Philippines and deposited in the Citibank branch at One Park Avenue, New York, on Jan. 15, 2004, the report said.

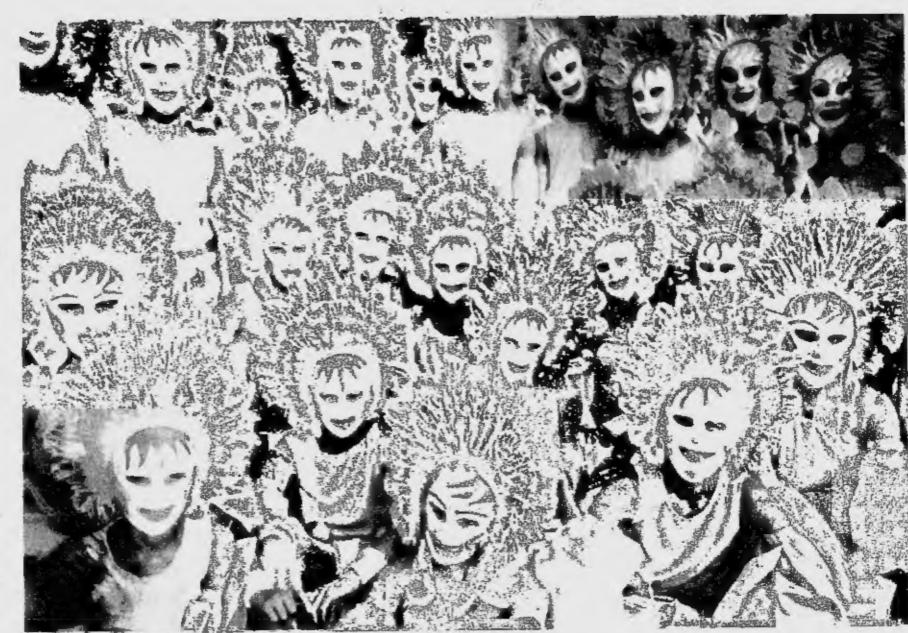
The documents also showed that:

· A day earlier, on Jan. 14, Clarita Garcia arrived in San Francisco and declared to the US Customs and Border Patrol that she had \$204,230 in her posses-

. On May 10, 2003, she declared she was carrying \$48,000.

1 . On Dec. 17, 2003, she declared that she was carrying \$100,000.

. Two days later, on Dec. 19, Ian Cari and Juan Paolo García were held by Customs and Border Patrol after they failed to declare that they were traveling with



PUT ON A HAPPY FACE

The MassKara festival has earned for Bacolod the title "City of Smiles" and placed it on the world tourist map of festivals. The three-day festival featuring gyrating masked dancers in the streets began when Negros Occidental's sugar industry began to bottom out in the 1980s but the province relused to be dragged down. Instead, it adopted a smiling paper mache mask as a symbol of its resilience and courage to prevail. On its first day Friday, high schools competed for best in dance, costume and mask awards,

Too old to reenact return of MacArthur

Rites for veterans' valor mark 60th year of Leyte landing

By TJ Burgonio

THEY WERE not much more than boys, then.

Now, mostly in their 80s, they will return to the same beaches on Leyte island that they stormed 60 years ago to begin the US-led Allied liberation of the Philippines.

gan on the morning of Oct. 20, 1944, Gen. Douglas MacArthur waded ashore to fulfill his promise. "I have returned," he declared. "By the grace of Almighty God, our forces stand again on

Philippine soil."

Some of the 200,000 troops MacArthur commanded in that invasion will make a nostalgic journey back to Leyte on Wednesday to commemorate the Allied landings that led to the reconquest of the country from Japanese rule.

Pour hours after the assault be- ans participate in the reenactment, but taking into consideration their age, physical limitations, it will be very difficult for them to get off the barge, land and wade to the shore," said Foreign Affairs director Adelio An-

hoc committee in charge of preparations for the celebration.

In the originally planned reenactment, the veterans would come in on a barge and then wade ashore.

Instead, they will be standing on the sidelines and be regaled by We wanted to have the veter- a tableau or a stage presentation by local talents reenacting the dramatic events of the war, from the historic 1944 landings to the country's liberation the following

> MacArthur's landing on Leyte, together with then war-time

gelito Cruz, a member of the ad Philippine President Sergio Osmeña, set the stage for the Battle of Leyte Gulf, described by historians as the largest air-sea battle recorded in history, at least up to

> The run-up to the battle, which involved hundreds of warships, saw the use by the Japanese for the first time of the kamikaze suicide dive hombers, historians said.

> The tableau will focus on the gallantry of the soldiers and the guerrillas who relentlessly fought the Japanese Imperial Army.

> > "We will focus on the Filipino

GIs probed for refusing 'suicide missions' in Iraq

WASHINGTON—The US Army is investigating 19 members of a supply platoon serving in Iraq who refused orders to go on a fuel convoy earlier this week, where explosive devices had killed dozens of soldiers, defense officials said on Friday.

Several soldiers called it a "suicide mission," relatives said.

The Clarion-Ledger, a newspaper in Jackson, Mississippi, quoted relatives of the soldiers as saying they had been arrested for refusing a "suicide" fuel delivery mission, were read their rights and were moved from a military barracks into tents.

However, the army said the soldiers had neither been arrested nor detained.

It was unclear if this was the first time a sizable group of soldiers in Iraq had refused to carry out orders, and the military is playing down the mutiny as an isolated incident. But the small rebellion suggested that problems lingered with outfitting soldiers with adequate equipment in an increasingly dangerous country.

A statement issued by the US military in traq called it an "isolated incident." Family members of some of the troops told a US

In dark world of blind kids, seeing is believing



BIRTHDAY boy Renz Miguel Mauriclo, 6, learns to cope in a sighted world.

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

IT TAKES roughly two hours for this sixyear-old child and his mother to get to his school in Cubao, Quezon City, from their modest home in Sta. Maria, Bula-

But it is always a trip worth taking. Renz Miguel Mauricio, who is blind, is learning his alphabet, reading a few words, making many friends, and gaining confidence that he would get a college degree someday.

It was not so long ago that Renz's parents felt that the world was crashing around them.

The second of three children, Renz was born prematurely. Doctors managed to keep him alive, but overexposure to oxygen damaged his retina, leaving him completely blind at the age of three months.

The Mauricios were at a loss on how to care for their handicapped child-until Renz's doctor at St. Luke's Hospital

handed his mother Evelyn the phone number of Resources for the Blind Inc.

It turned out to be a ray of hope.

Renz is one of over 200 students who are learning to cope in the sighted world on RBI campuses in Quezon City and Ce-

He and 16 others from RBI-Cubao Kindergarren I and II visited the Inquires office on Priday, his birthday. They sang some songs and performed a dance number to celebrate World Sight Day and mark the launch of the next phase of Standard Chartered Bank's "Seeing is Believing" campaign.

The global program is aimed at restoring sight to one million people in countries around the world, including the Philippines, where an estimated 100 children lose their sight every week because of poor nutrition, measles and premarure birth.

"We have set ourselves a big target but

SONGS and dances in the inquirer newsroom on Friday by 17 students of the Resources for the Blind Inc. in Quezon City marked World Sight Day and the launch of Standard Chartered Bank's campaign to restore sight to a million people around the world.

WEATHER FORECAST

showers and thunderstorms.

FORECAST: Southern Luzon, Visuyas and Mindense will experience

doucly sides with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The dist of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rain-

APILED BY: CHONA GALANCI, PDI RESEARCH/16/17/64

Boy Scouts drown during jamboree

ILOILO CITY-Tragedy struck the last day of a Boy Scout said the victims, along with sevfamboree yesterday when seven boys, aged 11 to 17, drowned while swimming in the beach in San Joaquin town, 53 km south of this city.

SOURCE PAGASA

lice office here identified the victims as 14-year-olds Neridyn Barcenas, Jerril Semic, Jeorge Selibio Jr. and Philip Sidney Mucas, and 17-year-old Alberto Corcedo. All five boys were students at Escalantera High School in San Joaquin and residents of

I The two other victims, residents of Cabatuan town in Iloilo, were identified as John Francis Marcon, 12, a student at Tomas Confesor Elementary School, and

A report from the regional po- Christian Monueva, 11, a student at Doroteo Lujan Elementary School.

> The seven died on the way to the Guimbal District Hospital where they were rushed.

> At least three other boys who were part of the group that went swimming survived.

> The boys were among some 4.000 scouts attending a provincial jamboree in San Joaquin, said police chief George Alino.

In a report to national police headquarters in Manila, Alino eral other scouts and two scoutmasters, apparently ignored warnings by locals not to swim in the area, some 40 meters from the shore, because of treacherous underwater cut-

The San Joaquin police chief, SP04 Romeo Villasis, said the victims were swimming at about 8:50 a.m. when they were swept away by strong currents. The bottom of Southern Hoilo's beaches are known to be very steep.

Denmark Sembrano, 15, one of those who survived; said in a radio interview that the boys were suddenly swept away by strong waves. He said he saw five

of his companions crying for help but they were too far away

A statement by the Iloilo council of the BSP said the victims were among a group of scouts from San Joaquin and Cabatuan who asked for permission to take a swim before joining the jamboree activities at the San Joaquin Sports Stadium.

They were accompanied by Felix Cata, a teacher at Inaca Elementary School in Cabatuan, and Domingo Ylyaron, a scoutmaster from Escalentara National High

At about 9 a.m., Cata called for help as he noticed eight of the boys thrashing about in the wa-

ter. Residents and other scouts pulled the victims onto boats before they were taken ashore where rescuers tried to resusci-

The jamboree organizers said the tragedy was "one truly sad moment for the entire (BSP Iloilo) council and the BSP" They promised to provide financial support to the families of the vic-

BSP Secretary General J. Rizal C. Pangilinan has ordered an immediate investigation and has directed the BSP national and Western Visayas regional offices to facilitate the release of financial assistance to the families of the vic-

Adolf Jaen, chair of the BSP. Iloilo council, said the national BSP council would give P12,500 for each of the victims while the local council would give, P5,000.

San Joaquin Mayor Ninfa Garin said she will also be giving? financial assistance to the victims. families. Garin also called for atí. investigation into the possible liability of the organizers.

The jamboree, which began on Oct. 13 and ended yesterday, drew some 4,068 participants from the Western Visayas regions. The largest number of participants came from Iloilo. Nestor R Burgos Jr., PDI Visayas Bureau;

Solons push own reform agenda

By Michael Lim Ubac

A BI-PARTISAN group of senators is promoting a legislative reform program, called the People's Agenda, that would purportedly overhaul policies of the Arroyo government.

The proposed agenda, to be finalized during a seminar workshop on Oct. 22 to 23, will address the two most pressing issues facing the administration—the Armed Forces scandal and the fiscal crisis.

Opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara said the reform agenda would include programs that would "raise the political capacity of the Philippines and increase the credibility of the government and the efficiency of the civil service."

A special committee composed of Angara and Senators Francis Pangilinan, Aquilino Pimentel Jr. and Richard Gordon has come up with a blueprint for the proposed structural changes in government.

The special committee's proposed firaft said "the problem itself may relate either to structure, procedure or fund-

may be carried out either through legislation or executive action.

The proposed work programs cover such areas as finance and taxation, social welfare, jobs and wealth creation, peace and order, and good governance.

The special committee suggested these topics as the initial batch of reforms in a People's Agenda that the Senate would push for the duration of the 13th Congress.

To fix the economy, senators want to address the tax-revenue efforts which had declined from a historic high of 19.29 percent of gross domestic product from 1994 to 1997 to only 15.43 percent from 1998 to 2003 by building up capital markets, establishing a credit-rating system and cleaning up the banking sector's nonperforming assets, among others.

As for jobs and wealth creation, the senators are for promoting projects in agriculture, rural infrastructure and agri-tourism because they generate

the quickest results at the least cost. The draft also calls for agricultural

ing," which would mean the changes modernization (farming and fishing), reviving the mining industry (estimated value of between \$800 billion and \$1 trillion), nationwide reforestation, setting up of export tourism enclaves, modernizing the civil service and strengthening political parties.

To improve peace and order, the draft calls for an "honorable peace" accord with the separatist Moro Islamic Liberarion Front, "ciosure" in the Estrada and Marcos cases, and for government to address what it said were the root causes of the communist insurgency-mass poverty, lack of opportunity and inequalities in the social system.

The Senate would be asked to set a strict schedule for enacting every reform and institute a monitoring mechanism to ensure that the agenda is carried out.

The fiscal and financial reforms should obviously have the highest priority. Slow progress on these reforms by Congress could weigh down still more on our country's already poor credit rating in global finance markets," the draft read.

Aglipay urged to start lifestyle check in PNP

By Carlito Pablo

DON'T wait for what happened at Camp Aguinaldo to happen to Camp Crame, House leaders told Philippine National Police Director General Edgar Aglipay, whom they urged to start a lifestyle check program in the PNP.

House Majority Leader Rep. Prospero Nograles led other legislators in urging Aglipay to start probing the police force as it emerged that the Armed Forces had been caught flatfooted by the explosive revelations concerning corruption among a number of its generals.

Even as controversy roiled the AFP-triggered by the discovery of the unexplained wealth of former AFP comptroller Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia-various unnamed officers in the PNP had suggested that police generals and colonels were not that innocent, either. ◆ Despite their modest incomes, some police officials have been able to live in style, building lavish houses and buying luxury vehicles,

the sources said. The modus operandi for accumulating their ill-gotten wealth was similar to that obtaining in the Armed Forces, they said.

In a statement, the legislators said that Aglipay could ask for help from the Office of the Ombudsman and even the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission to conduct the lifestyle check on the country's top cops.

"The PNP leadership should not allow public distrust to also spread to the police institution by allowing an objective lifestyle check on its officers," Nograles said in a statement.

"People have become skeptical about the outcome of the military probe on suspended Maj. Gen. Carlos García," he said.

In the same statement, Rep. Edwin Uy (Lakas, Isabela) said that Aglipay has only a few months in office and must "act fast and do his best to cleanse the PNP of dishonest officers who have enriched themselves at the expense of the people."

Uy, chair of the committee on bases conversion, said that an anti-corruption campaign in the PNP will be a major contribution to the govemment's commitment to good governance

A third lawmaker, Rep. Monico Puentevella (Lakas, Bacolod City), said that Aglipay would be wrong to outrightly deny that there was corruption at Camp Crame.

"The independent lifestyle checks and investigations of errant police officers will demon--strate the PNP leadership's seriousness and sincarity in instituting needed reforms in the organization," said Puentevella, chair of the commit tee on transportation and communications.

Nograles noted that there had been reports that as in the AFR conversion-the turning of funds intended for supplies and projects into cash—was also being practiced in the PNP

'Prayerful' Erap finds God's purpose in jail

By Armand N. Nocum

THE INTERVIEWER, a precocious sixth-grader, considered it an "answered prayer."

The interviewee, ousted President Joseph Estrada, did not disappoint. The disgraced leader, ostensibly in jail at his lavish vacation estate in Tanay, Rizal, was obliging with quote-worthy sentiments and advice.

During the interview that started at 10 a.m. and lasted until after lunch yesterday, Estrada told Keeshia Rose D. Wee Eng, a sixth-grade student at the Makati Gospel Christian Academy in Fort Bonifacio, that he now realized that God had a purpose for putting him in jail.

"God brought me here to be closer to Him and to be more prayerful. I now pray one hour a day when I (used to) do it for just five minutes when I was President," said Estrada, who had never been known to be deeply religious.

An Estrada aide who was at the interview said this was how Estrada answered a question from Keeshia on whether he prayed to God and how often.

Keeshia had written Justice Edilberto Sandoval, chair of the Sandiganbayan Special Division trying Estrada for plunder, last September asking for a 20-minute interview with Estrada.

She said the interview was for a school report. The request, earnestly prayed for, was

"After their talk, the President (Estrada) turned to us, saying he believed that his

prayers of gerting vindicated and of being free, will be granted one day," the aide said.

Asked whether he enjoyed his short-lived presidency, Estrada reportedly replied that he did and that he was thankful to God and the people for having made him President.

But he said he was also sad that he was ousted in 2001 before he was able to do everything that he had wanted to do for the people.

Asked whom he consulted when making decisions when he was President, Estrada replied: "I decided for the greater good of the greater number of people, not for my selfish

end or that of my compadres." Kieshia was accompanied by her mother, Sheila Jay, sister Rochelle, cousin Mark Henry Go and teacher Maryann Papey.

She gave Estrada a Bible and a book titled "The Purpose-Driven Life."

Estrada, who is now said to be enjoying. farming, brought Wee Eng to a vegetable farm on the estate and the two harvested some vegetables, including older and patola. She was given some of the vegetables to take home.

Vegetables from the farm also was the fare at lunch by a man-made lagoon. The children were allowed to feed the fish in the lagoon.

Impressed by Keeshia's "knowledge about the government," Estrada advised her to study hard, saying that it was the best gift that? she could get from her parents.

"My parents would tell me that always." said Estrada, who is a college dropout.

Sin stable, receives visitors

AlLING retired Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin appeared to be in stable condition yesterday morning as he received several visitors, including President Macapagal-Arroyo.

In addition to the President, Sin also talked briefly with Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales, who paid his second visit.

"They (Ms Arroyo and Sin) talked for a while. She assured him of continued prayers for his health," Peachy Yanssuan, director of the archdiocese of Manila's communication

Yamsuan said the information about the visits was relayed to her by Fr. Rufino Sescon, Sin's secretary, and Bataan Bishop Soc Villegas, a protegé of the cardinal's.

Visitors have not been allowed to see Sin although several groups had gone to the hospital to pray for him.

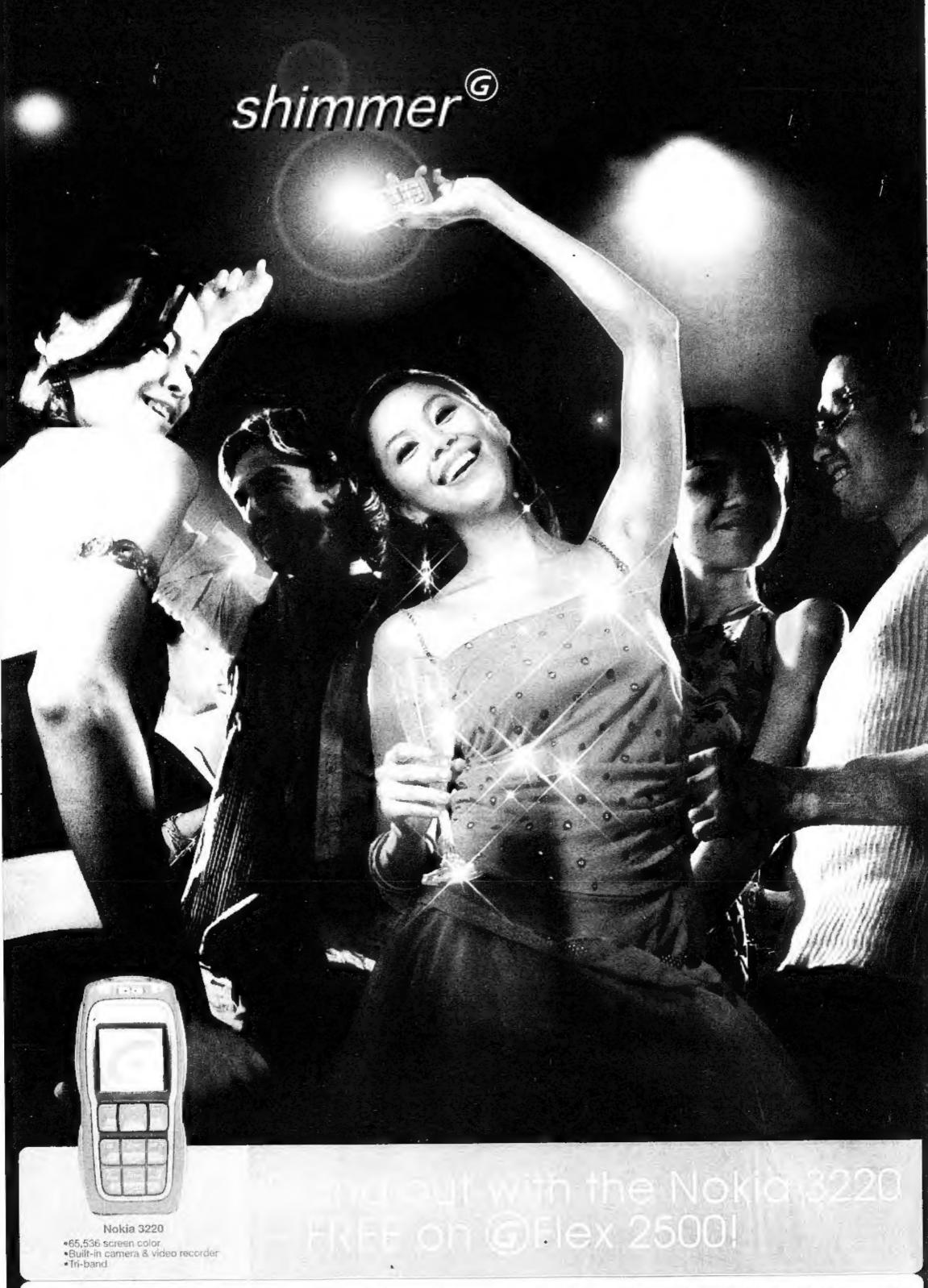
Sin, 76, has been confined at the intensive care unit of the Cardinal Santos Memorial Medical Center since Monday after suffering a heart attack, his second.

Doctors were quoted as saying that he suffered from hypotension and subsequent congestive heart failure.

Yesterday, Yamsuan said reports indicated that Sin was in stable condition.

"(The cardinal) has even begun joking. Bishop Soc said the cardinal told his attending doctor that he'll find her a boyfriend and marry them," she said. Martin P. Marfil





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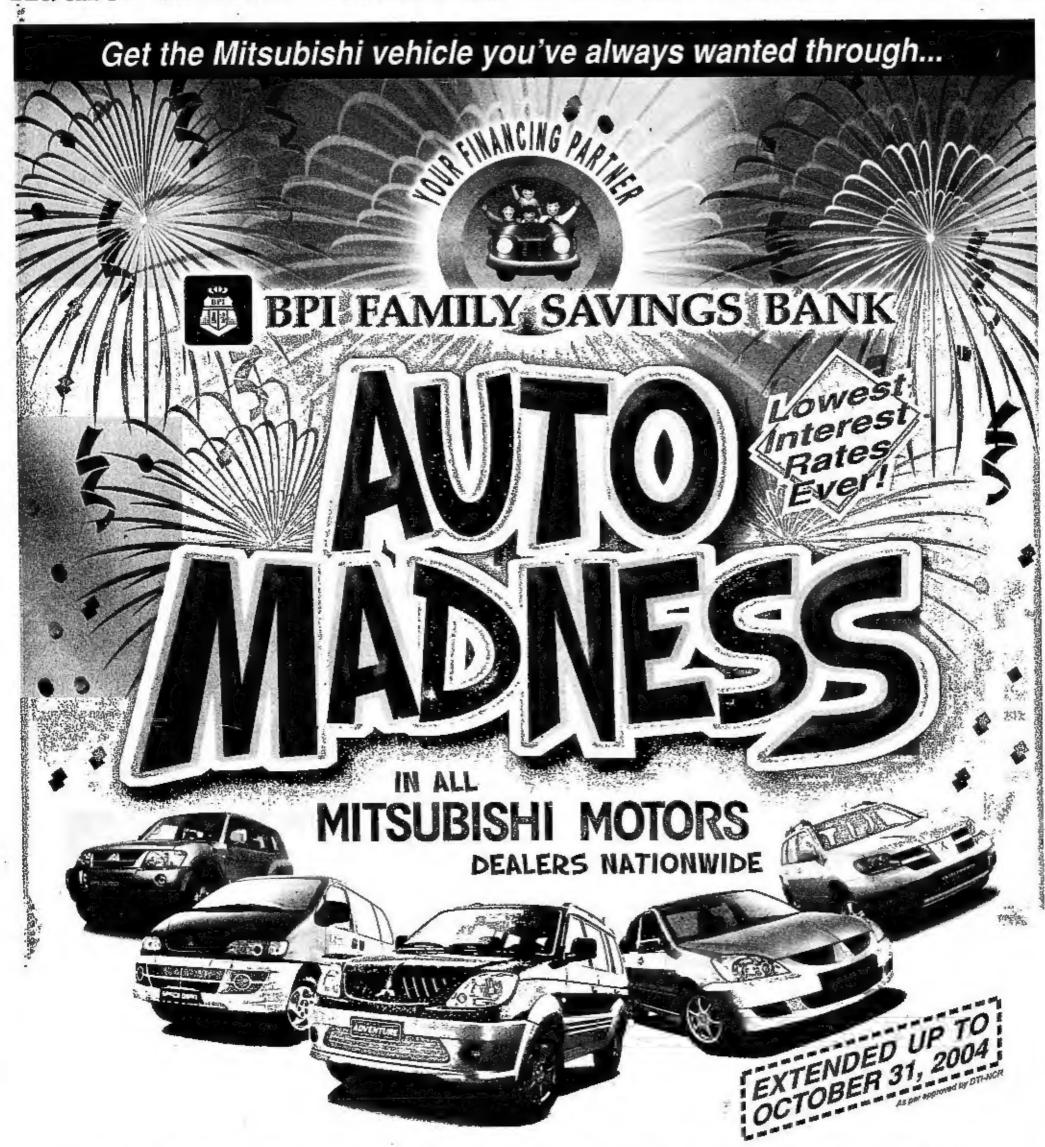
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| 2004 Lancer 1.6 GL NVT | 658,000 | 78,700 | 27,576 | 19,646 | 15,755 | 13,817 | 12,533 |
| 2004 Lancer 1.6 GLX M/T | 698,000 | 54,700 | 29,252 | 20,840 | 16,713 | 14,657 | 13,29 |
| 2004 Lancer 1.6 GLS CVT | 758,000 | 58,700 | 31,767 | 22,632 | 18,149 | 15,917 | 14,43 |
| 2004 Lancer 1.6 MX CVT | 838,000 | 85,700 | 35,120 | 25,020 | 20,065 | 17,597 | 15,96 |
| 2004 Adventure GL 2.5 Diesel M/T | 675,000 | 101,250 | 28,289 | 20,154 | 16,162 | 14,174 | 12,85 |
| 2004 Adventure GLX 2.0 Gas MIT | 700,000 | 85,000 | 29,336 | 29,900 | 16,760 | 14,699 | 13,33 |
| 2004 Adventure GLX 2.5 Diesel M/T* | 740,000 | 111,000 | 31,013 | 22,094 | 17,718 | 15,539 | 14,09 |
| 2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas M/T | 795,000 | 79,250 | 33,318 | 23,737 | 19,835 | 16,694 | 15,14 |
| 2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.5 Diesel M/T | 905,000 | 80,750 | 33,737 | 24,035 | 19,275 | 15,904 | 15,33 |
| 2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas A/T | 848,000 | 107,200 | 35,539 | 25,319 | 28,304 | 17,807 | 16,15 |
| 2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.5 Dieset M/T | 935,000 | 105,250 | 39,185 | 27,917 | 22,387 | 19,634 | 17,80 |
| 2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.5 Gas A/T | 980,000 | 127,000 | 41,071 | 29,260 | 23,465 | 20,579 | 18,66 |
| 2004 Space Gear 2.4 Ges A/T | 1,180,860 | 87,000 | 48,511 | 34,561 | 27,715 | 24,307 | 22,25 |
| 2004 Outlander 2.4 Gan AWD A/T | 1,280,000 | 77,000 | 53,643 | 38,217 | 30,648 | 26,879 | 24,37 |

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| 2004 Lancer 1,6 GLX M/T | 698,000 | 319,000 | 16,224 | 11,559 | 9,269 | 8,129 | 7,590 |
| 2004 Lancor 1.6 GLS CVT | 758,000 | 341,000 | 17,519 | 12,552 | 10,066 | 8,828 | 8,243 |
| 2004 Lancer 1.6 MX CVT | 838,000 | 389,000 | 19,478 | 13,877 | 11,128 | 9,760 | 9,113 |
| 2004 Adventure GL 2.5 Diesel M/T** | 675,000 | 337,500 | 15,701 | 11,186 | 8,970 | 7,867 | 7,123 |
| 2004 Adventure GLX 2.0 Gas M/T** | 700,000 | 350,000 | 16,317 | 11,625 | 9,323 | 8,176 | 7,403 |
| 2004 Advanture GLX 2.5 Diesei M/T* | 740,000 | 337,000 | 17,200 | 12,254 | 9,827 | 8,618 | 8,047 |
| 2004 Advanture GLS Sport 2.0 Gas M/T | 795,000 | 377,500 | 18,479 | 13,165 | 10,557 | 9,259 | 8,845 |
| 2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.5 Diesel N/T | 805,000 | 382,500 | 18,711 | 13,330 | 10,690 | 9,375 | 8,754 |
| 2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas A/T** | 848,000 | 424,000 | 19,966 | 14,224 | 11,407 | 10,004 | 9,051 |
| 2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.5 Dissel N/T | 935,000 | 447,500 | 21,733 | 15,483 | 12,415 | 10,889 | 10,167 |
| 2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.6 Gas A/T** | 980,000 | 490,000 | 23,220 | 16,543 | 13,268 | 11,635 | 10,540 |
| 2004 Space Gear 2.4 Gas A/T** | 1,180,000 | 590,000 | 24,583*** | 17,319 | 13,889 | 12,191 | 11,114 |
| 2004 Outlander 2.4 Gas AWD A/T | 1,280,008 | 535,000 | 29,752 | 21,196 | 16,998 | 14,000 | 13,919 |

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Pazzibugan

PERHAPS it's just an other error.

While the publisher, authors and evaluators of an error-ridden public school history textbook could' go scot-free, Ironically, the whistle-blower. could face prosecu-

Antonio Go, academic supervisor of Marian School, was sued for libel by the lead author of the secondyear high school history text that Go said contained 431 errors.

Dr. Teofista Vivar, 75, a former Department of Education superintendent, filed a libel complaint even as the DepEd confirmed that her "Asya: Noon, Ngayon at sa Hinaharap," published by SD Publications, did contain errors.

The DepEd has also asked University of the Philippines history teachers to check her other book, "Kasaysayan ng Daigdig" for third year high school students, which Go claimed had more than 300 errors.

Go received a subpoena from the Quezon City Prosecutor's Office on Friday ordering him to appear in court on Oct. 28. He did not get a copy of Vivar's complaint.

At first, Go found the situation humor-

"I'm the one who has grounds to sue for libel. But I won't do that out of respect for her (Vivar's) age," he said. "I'm not worried. All I have to do is bring the book."

In an open letter to the Inquirer published Sept. 25, Vivar and her co-authors Evelina Viloria and Ruth Fuentes (the fourth Quiray, had passed away) said Go had fabricated the errors.

One less fee for **OFWs**

THE DEPARTMENT of Labor and Employment yesterday announced that a special hiring arrangement had been forged with Taiwan.

In a statement, Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas said the agreement would do away with placement fees for overseas Filipino workers wanting to work in Taiwan,

The agreement was part of a special hiring opportunity window opened by Taiwan for some 10,000 foreign workers, especially those from the Philippines and other Asian countries.

It was forged during Sto. Tomas' recent visit to Taiwan where she also discussed the need to protect Filipino workers from abusive employers.

"We hope the special hiring arrange-ment of the Philippines with Taiwan... will be emulated and will ser a pattern for better OFW protection worldwide, especially among migrant receiving countries in collaboration with the Philippines," she said.

Some 45,186 Fil-Ipinos went to Talwan last year to work and another 23,029 were hired or re-hired between January and June this year. Martin R Marfil

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In dark world of blind kids, seeing is believing

From page A1

blindness is a global challenge that we can only combat if business and individuals work together," said Standard Chartered CEO Simon Morris.

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RBI has been meeting the challenge the dots from left to right, in the same gration into regular high schools. of helping blind and visually impaired Filipinos since 1988.

Personal project

It began as a personal project of Dr. Arthur Lown, blind since childhood, to produce a braille version of the Filipino Bible.

Lown came to the Philippines in 1970 to head the Manila branch of the Summer Institute of Linguistics.

Learning of his interest in transcribing the Filipino Bible into braille, three Filipino pastors met with him in 1980 with the intention of helping turn the vision into reality.

The braille system makes use of raised dots, which are recognizable by touch. The tips of the fingers are moved across of themselves in preparation for inte-

manner that eyes scan a printed page.

This system, created in 1824, has enabled the blind to read like the sighted.

That first project to produce a Pilipino Bible in braille eventually led to the formal setup of RBI in 1988.

Productive lives

Through the years, RBI has become much more than just a translator of books into braille.

Its vision is to help blind and visually impaired children live normal, happy and productive lives and reach their full potential.

Children at RBI, mostly from poor and lower middle class families, are taught to read in braille and to take care

Over 1,000 have graduated from RBI. Many have found gainful employment: others have set up their own businesses, such as hog-raising, rugmaking and running sari-sari stores.

Parents are also trained and counseled to help them care for their children better. Teachers from other schools, on the other hand, are taught skills in special education.

RBI maintains a trained staff of 30 specialists and about three teachers for every class of 17 students. Like Renz, many of these students lost their sight because of premature birth.

Other students with multiple disabilities are given extra attention.

Children are provided uniforms,

learning materials and even walking, sticks-all for free, thanks to donations' from private individuals, foundations and corporations such as Standard Chartered Bank.

'Read a Braille'

The bank joined hands with RBI twoyears ago, and plans to extend the latter's work by funding the "Read a Braille" program.

The program aims to produce and? circulate free braille textbook materials and educational activity sheets to over 200 schools where blind children and young adults are enrolled.

By joining hands with the private sector, RBI is confident that it can turn darkness into light for blind children.

GIs probed for refusing 'suicide missions' in Iraq

newspaper that security for the fuel trucks was inadequate.

The military statement said 19 members of the 343rd Quartermaster Company, a unit that moves water and other supplies for American troops, did not report to formation to prepare for their assigned convoy mission on Wednesday morning.

It said the investigation would determine whether the military's

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Serious military offense

Refusal to obey orders, especially in a combat zone, is a serious military offense. But the statement stressed that "it is far too early in the investigation to speculate as to what happened, why it happened or any action that might be taken."

The Clarion-Ledger in Jackson, Mississippi, reported on Friday that interviews with some family

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strict code of conduct was violated. members indicated that soldiers from the unit, based in Tallil, refused to go on the mission because they felt they did not have an adequate armed escort and the vehicles were not in good shape.

Initial indication is that the soldiers scheduled for the mission raised some valid concerns and the command is addressing them," the military statement from Iraq said, adding that some soldiers apparently expressed their concerns "in an inappropriate manner."

Civilian and military convoys in Iraq, where more than 1,000 US troops have been killed since the US-led invasion in March 2003, are frequent targets for roadside bombings and other ambushes.

Questioned

The commanding general of the 13th Corps support command quickly appointed the deputy commander to lead an investigation of the allegations, and troops were questioned at their headquarters in Tallil.

The Clarion-Ledger quoted Teresa Hill of Dothan, Alabama, who said her daughter Amber McClenny was among the soldiers detained as saying, "They knew there was a 99 percent chance they were going to get ambushed or fired at."

She said she was told the platoon's trucks could travel no faster than 40 miles (64 km) per hour.

Raise hell

"This is a real, real, big emergency," Mc-Clenny said in her message. I need you to contact someone. I mean, raise pure hell."

"We had broken down thicks, non-armored vehicles and, um, we were carrying contaminated fuel. They are holding us against our will. We are now prisoners," she said.

Hill said she was later contacted by Spc. Tammy Reese in Iraq, who was calling fami-

lies of the detainees. "She told me (Amber) was being held in a tent with armed

daughter Friday afternoon after her release. Her daughter said they are facing punishment ranging from a reprimand to a charge of

The Army said the convoy successfully completed the fuel delivery a few hours after the platoon members refused to go.

The Army said the unit's commanding officer had ordered a "safety-maintenance stand down" during which the unit's vehicles would be inspected while the inquiry was being conducted.

Jackie Butler of Jackson, Miss., the wife of Staff Sgt. Michael Butler, 44, said she was, awakened about 5:30 or 6 a.m. Thursday by 8 call from an officer in Iraq. He told her "that my husband was being detained for disobeying a direct order," Butler said, "and he went on to tell me that it was a bogus charge that they got against him and some of those soldiers over there, because what they were doing was sending them into a suicide mission and they refused to go."

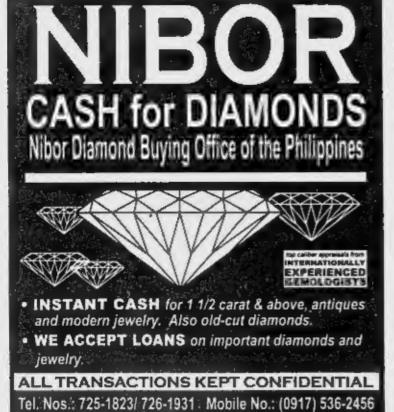
Valid concerns

A senior Army officer in Washington said the 19 soldiers had been assembled on Wednesday morning to deliver fuel but that some refused to go. He denied they had been held under guard.

The officer said the soldiers raised "some valid concerns."

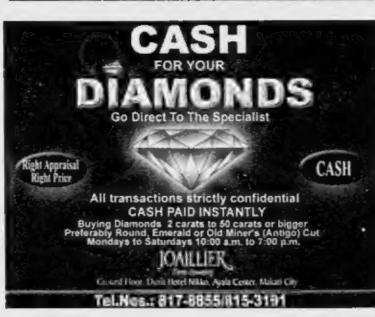
"Unfortunately it appears that a small number of the soldiers involved chose to express their concerns in an inappropriate manner," he said. Insubordination during wartime is considered a grave offense, and an inquiry is under way, the officer said, to determine if the Uniform Code of-Military Justice was violated and whether disciplinary measures were warranted.

"I know soldiers are deeply concerned and have been deeply concerned about the equipment shortages," said Paul Rieckhoff, a veteran of the Iraq war and executive director of Operation Truth, a New York advocacy group working to draw attention to the needs of solguards," said Hill, diers in Iraq and returning vererans. New who spoke with her York Times News Service, AFP, Reuters, AP











Skip front page...

From page Al

wrote in his latest View from the Palace, a weekly recap of Malacañang goings-on.

"Good news is like gold. It is buried deep (inside) and you have to dig for it," Bunye said. The Malacañang spokesperson

could only hope this piece lands in the inside pages.

Since majority of readers just stick to the front page, they end up reading only the negative stories.

Daily dose of negatives

"If one has a daily dose of negatives, pretty soon one develops a negative outlook not just about the country but ultimately about themselves. Negative thoughts produce negative actions," Bunye aired his frustrations in his weekly piece.

Apparently, the headlines last week were not to Malacañang's liking.

Read for yourself: Amid economic difficulties, an increasing number of Filipinos are going hungry; controversies persist involving the President's appointees; money-losing government corporations continue to pay fat salaries to its top officials; senior military officers have been found with unexplained wealth.

Now this: An American think tank has described Ms Arroyo as the "weakest leader in the region."

Feel-good stories

Bunye said that there were many things the Filipino could be proud of and feel good about. He made a list:

 The Philippines is a major car exporter with Ford Philippines expected to export more than 100,000 units in the next five years.

 As a major player in the call center industry, it ranks third in the world after India and China.

· When it comes to Information and Communications Technology (ICT), the Philippines is No. 4 worldwide in terms of competence and skills.

· America Online has 1,000 people in Clark enswering 90 per-

cent of AOEs global e-mail inquiries.

 Texas Instruments in Baguio; produces chips that run 100 percent of all Nokia cell phones and 80 percent of Ericsson cell phones.

More good news

 Toshiba laptops and Panasonic cell phones are produced in. Laguna.

 The most advanced Pentium 4 chip of Intel is produced in Cavite.

 The Philippine-owned International Container Services Inc. won the bid to develop and manage the Baltic container port in Poland for \$100 million.

 While McDonald's is No. 1 in the United States, Jollibee is No. 1 in the Philippines.

 Cebu Pacific is embarking on a trans-Atlantic journey and PAL continues to cover the China market.

 The country recorded the lowest number of strikes in 21 years.

In the countryside, marginalized people are becoming empowered. New roads are being built. Electricity and water are being provided.

Reading the papers is part of Bunye's job description.

As a "spin doctor," Bunye churns out presidential statements reacting on virtually every headline story in every newspaper on a daily basis. On top of that, he faces Malacañang reporters every day to answer their questions on any subject under the sun.

Former reporter

Bunye knows the territory well. He was a former reporter for the defunct Manila Times Radio and Philippine Daily Star. A lawyer, he served as a congressman before Joining Ms Arroyo as her spokesperson and press secretary.

"If my former media organizations closed down, I can assure you they were purely for reasons beyond the control of management and not due to my inability to write good stories," he quipped in a speech at the Gridiron of the National Press Club recently.

Here's a deal you can't resist this Halloween! Get a chance to win one of 6 Toyota REVOs, 3 to be raffled off every 2 weeks. Winning has never been this easy!





Hurry, buy any Toyota* from your nearest Toyota dealer for a chance to win a brand new REVO GL. Deadline of entries is on October 15 for the 1st raffle draw on October 21, 2004. Non-winning entries are still eligible for the 2ND raffle draw.

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Solons to summon AFP auditors to House probe

By Norman Bordadora and Carlito Pablo

THE HOUSE committee on national defense will summon the state auditors assigned to the ·Armed Porces General Headquarters during Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia's term as comptroller, according to committee chair Parañague Rep. Rollo Golez.

"What we have here is the COA (Commission on Audit) being part of the syndicate. That's why we are summoning them (the auditors) to the inquiry," Golez told reporters after a

breakfast news forum yesterday al, as saying that Garcia was in Quezon City.

Golez said no investigation of the alleged corruption in the military procurement process would progress if nobody would point out specific instances.

He said that with the collusion of certain suppliers and military officers, documentary requirements such as delivery and inventory receipts, and even certificates of consumption, could be fabricated to cover irregular expenditures.

Golez quoted Col. Rafael Regino, the AFP surgeon gener-

now fit to face the rigors of the House inquiry on his unexplained wealth.

He said Garcia should submit to the investigation being conducted by the committees on national defense and on banks because the general could serve as a state witness.

"But we have to see whether he has a story to tell," Golez said. "It's up to him whether he'd take the responsibility [of telling on others]."

Golez said, however, that the committees did not need Garcia's

inputs to uncover the alleged corruption, which he described as "a multi-headed hydra."

He said state auditors as well as other officers involved in the procurement process could be invited to testify.

But opposition congressmen are questioning the inquiry.

For one, House committees are not supposed to hold inquiries during the recess, Quezon City Rep. Vincent Crisologo said in a phone interview.

The deputy minority leader said the House committee on rules chaired by Majority Leader

Rep. Prospero Nograles had authorized only the committee on appropriations to hold hearings on the proposed 2005 budget during the Sept. 24-Oct. 24 break.

"We're not protecting the generals, but we in the minority have reservations on whether the current investigation has been clothed with the proper authority," Crisologo said.

The two involved committees have held three hearings and are to resume the inquiry tomorrow.

But Golez said the inquiry had been authorized by No-

grales. He said a representative of Minority Leader Rep. Francis Escudero had likewise signed an authorization.

In a phone interview, Escudero said he would rather delve into the way Golez had been handling the inquiry: "[It] is focusing too much on Garcia when the real issue is graft and corruption in the military."

Escudero also said the two committees were taking too long in inviting former AFP chiefs of staff, particularly those whom Garcia had served as comptroller.

Garcia took P44M to US, documents say

From page A1

\$100,000.

The Ombudsman report said Garcia declared that he was carrying \$15,000 when he arrived in the United States on Nov. 4, 1993, to pursue a master's degree at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California: On Aug. 1, 1995, he again declared \$10,400.

Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez yesterday said the Philippine government had formally asked US authorities to freeze the Garcia assets in the United

Gonzalez said it was the Anti-Money Laundering Council that made the formal request through the RP-US Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty.

The US Department of Homeland Security has so far identified three Garcia assets -a \$765,000 Trump Park Avenue Condominium at 502 Park Avenue, New York; a \$750,000 apartment at 222 East 34th Street, also in New York, and a house at 625 Vancouver Drive, Westerville, Ohio.

While the value of the Ohio house remains undetermined, it is the known US address of the general's wife and their sons lan Carl, Juan Paolo and Timothy Mark. All four are American citizens.

Garcia, a 1971 graduate of the Philippine Military Academy, was assigned to the Armed Forces Corps. of Engineers (CE) from 1971 to 1989. He served in the logistics office from 1989 to 1996, and was then recalled to the CE where he served in various capacities, including as chief of engineers from May 29, 2000 to roads, bridges and houses for the mili-

March 27, 2001.

He was named AFP deputy chief of staff for comptrollership on March 28, 2001. He draws a monthly salary of P37,000.

Flights

Citing records from the Bureau of Immigration, the Ombudsman report said Garcia and his wife left for Amsterdam on Dec. 7, 2003, and returned to the Philippines on Dec. 29.

It was in the same month that the Garcia sons left Manila on board a Philippine Airlines flight to San Francisco, where they were held by customs authorities for failing to declare the \$100,000.

On Jan. 14, 2004, Clarita Garcia left Manila on board a Northwest Airlines flight to Nagoya, Immigration records showed.

On May 10, 2002, she and her two sons took a PAL flight to San Francisco, but only Juan Paolo returned to the Philippines on May 29.

The Ombudsman looked into the Garcias' travels and financial transactions after David Meisner, an attaché from the ICE at the US Embassy sent a letter saying that the US Department of Homeland Security was investigating the family for "violating US money laundering laws," the report said.

Meisner attached to the letter a swom statement by Clarita Garcia to the ICE agents that the currency confiscated from her sons was "gratitude money" from Philippine companies that were awarded military contracts to build

tary, the report said.

Meisner's letter was dated Sept. 14, 2004. The Ombudsman started the investigation on Sept. 17.

Ten days later, investigators filed a formal complaint and recommended Garcia's preventive suspension.

'We have to be careful'

Gonzalez, however, said authorities should be careful in looking into the assets of Garcia and other generals suspected of corruption.

"Let's look at the assets that were illegally acquired. Not all of them are illegal," he said, adding:

"We cannot just be running amuck

Gonzalez said some of the generals' assets might have been acquired while prices were still low,

*I got my house (in Manila) at P700 per square meter in 1981. Now it's worth P35,000 (per sq.m.)," he said. "We have to be careful, or nobody would consider joining the government."

Malacafiang also appealed to the opposition not to drag the whole AFP

"The opposition should not use the Garcia issue to rake up muck against the whole institution," said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye, President Macapagal-Arroyo's spokesperson.

Bunye said errant military officers were already "being sacked and brought

There are many generals who have stuck to the line of duty and the code of integrity," he said, adding that "through

the majority of honest and faithful soldiers, the AFP can redeem itself."

The Court of Appeals ordered on Wednesday a freeze of the Garcias' 40 bank accounts in the country after finding that "probable cause exists that an unlawful activity and/or a money-laundering offense is about to be, is being, or has been committed."

Solicitor General Alfredo Benipayo said these accounts contained "large amounts of money believed to constitute proceeds of illegal activities..."

GMA satisfied

Bunye said the President was satisfied with the way the AFP leadership was handling the investigation of senior officers and believed that the reforms she wanted were being imple-

Ms Arroyo, however, said last week that it was she who had ordered the AFP to subject Garcia to a court-martial.

Malacañang also rejected a proposal by opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara to turn Garcia into a state witness to encourage him to spill the beans on his superiors and other officials who might have benefited from corruption in the

Bunye said in an RMN radio interview that this proposal was "premature" because it had not been established that Garcia had accomplices and that he was the least guilty among them.

He reiterated Malacañang's position that the guilty parties should be penalized, and said the investigations being conducted by the Ombudsman and

Congress should be transparent and open to the public.

'Verbal directive'

AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Narciso Abaya has ordered Garcia's transfer from the UST Hospital in Manila to the AFP Medical Center on V. Luna, Quezon City, "as soon as his health allows it," Lt. Col. Daniel Lucero told reporters.

Lucero, chief of the AFP Public Information Office, denied that the military leadership was helpless in moving Garcia from the private hospital, and said Abaya's "verbal directive" would be carried out "as ordered."

He did not give a specific time for the

Surigao del Sur Rep. Prospero Pichay Jr., co-chair of the powerful Commission on Appointments, called on Abaya to work double-time during the remaining days of his term to resolve Garcia's case.

For starters, Abaya should immediately convene the court-martial to try Garcia, Pichay said.

Abaya reaches the mandatory retirement age of 56 on Oct. 29.

Pichay said the Commission on Appointments would thoroughly vet the next AFP chief to ensure that he would be able to institute reforms in the military.

"We must determine whether he has any participation in corruption similar to Garcia's," the congressman said. "A dirty chief of staff will just help perpetuate the corruption prevalent in the military." With reports from Juliet Labog-Javellana, Alcuin Papa and Carlito Pablo

Too old to reenact the promised return of MacArthur

From page Al

soldiers. This will be a showcase of the valor of the Filipino soldiers," said tourism director Romulo "l'ing" de los Reyes, also a committee member.

The tableau will be incorporated in a military parade that will follow an hour-long program at the sprawling MacArthur Landing Memorial National Park in Palo town.

"The idea is to commemorate the sacrifices of our people. We should give recognition to our guerrillas and veterans. They're dying as we speak," said Sen. Richard Gordon, who co-chairs the committee with Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo.

Ford can't make it

President Macapagal-Arroyo will address the veterans, the descendants of the deceased veterans and guests, including mem-

bers of the diplomatic corps. Ms Arroyo had invited former US President Gerald Ford to be guest of honor, but his chief of staff expressed regrets, saying

Ford had prior commitments. Unknown to many, Ford, then a naval officer, was on board the USS Monterey, a light aircraft carrier that was part of the Allied fleet of over 700 ships that landed on the beaches of Leyte 60 years ago.

No MacArthur kin

US Embassy officials are not optimistic that any of the relatives of MacArthur would be able to come for the commemoration, but were hopeful the descendants of veterans, like the late General and Foreign Secretary Carlos R Romulo, would make it.

Romulo was immortalized in the famous photo that showed him behind MacArthur as the general hit the shore. Romulo's son, Roberto, is a former foreign secretary himself while his nephew, Alberto, is the current someli said. foreign secretary.

May be their last

Over 1.000 veterans, mostly Filipinos, are expected to be in

Leyte for what could be their "last major commemoration" of the liberation.

Some may not be around for the 65th or 70th celebration, organizers said. Each veteran will receive a

commemorative chest badge which captures the landings in miniature and is adorned with the phrase, "Salute to Valor." They will have something to

take home and cherish," Cruz, acting director of the Department of Foreign Affairs' Office of American Affairs, said of the badge. "It's a token, of course. It's something to be proud of."

The veterans will converge before dawn for a 5 a.m. "sunrise ceremony" where they will lay wreaths at the Filipino Soldier Monument and Shrine.

At a 6 p.m. "sunset ceremony," they will light candles on the shores of Red Beach, one of the beaches they stormed in 1944.

The festivities will allow Filipino veterans to touch base with their counterparts from the United States, Australia, the United Kingdom and New Zealand.

"We would like to celebrate these events with austerity, but with meaning," Cruz said. "So in a way we would like to celebrate them with the tightest budget possible, but with a most meaningful event. Not just to the veterans, but to the youth as well," he

Australia, US veterans

Australia is bringing in some 30 to 40 veterans aboard three ships. The US Embassy is unsure about the number of its veterans flying in.

"There's talk of many dozens, perhaps several hundreds of them. But you know they are very old. They want to come, and we're trying to get as many of them as possible," US Embassy Charge d'Affaires Joseph Mus-

"Most of them will be Americans who fought in the Phillppines, but a lot of them are former Filipinos who moved to the States after the war," he said.



GEN. DOUGLAS MACARTHUR (wearing his signature dark glasses) after the landing in Palo, Leyte, declares the reestablishment of the Philippine Commonwealth on the footsteps of the Leyte Capitol. To his left is President Sergio Osmeña. This photo is on display at the VEN LABROYPO! VEAYAS BUREAU Montejo ancestral home in Tacloban City.



A GLIMPSE of history: US Embassy Charge d' Affaires Joseph Mussomell (right) recently toured the Geronimo Berenguer de los Reyes Jr. Foundation Museum and Fine Arts Collection in Cavite, which is home to over 900 rare photographs, including those of the Leyte Landing on JIH GUNOTUHENAN

Air Force losing pilots, mechanics to airlines

Philippine Air Force are leaving in droves for commercial airlines where the pay is much

PAF spokesperson Lt, Col. Restituto Padilla Jr. yesterday confirmed that about 100 veteran pilots had opted to retire early to accept the lucrative offers of airlines.

He identified one of these as Cebu Pacific Air which is expanding its international routes.

Commercial airline pilots receive an initial salary of P60,000 to P80,000 a month, which increases to as much as P200,000 or more per month, excluding allowances, compared to PAF pilots who get a mere P30,000 or less monthly, depending on their rank.

Padilla said the wages offered by commercial airlines was just too lucrative and tempting for PAF pilots to turn down.

Aside from this, a big number of skilled Air Force aircraft mechanics are moving to the private sector or going abroad for greener pastures, he said.

"Aircraft mechanics are hard to replace because it takes years to train skilled ones," Padilla said.

He said most of the mechanics go to the

CONVICTED former Zamboanga Rep. Romeo

Jalosjos can be returned to prison after his

doctor approved his discharge from the

Dr. Anthony King, a cardiologist, gave the go-

signal after seeing the results of the angiogram

done on Jalosjos. The test results indicated that

one's blood. A specialist trained in interven-

heart attack is slim," King told the Inquirer in

An angiogram is an X-ray examination of

"The possibility of the patient suffering a

King, however, said he was only a "reliever"

since Jalosjos' attending physician, Dr. Romeo

Jalosjos was free of coronary artery disease.

tional radiology performs the procedure.

Makati Medical Center last Friday.

PILOTS and skilled aircraft mechanics of the Middle East where they receive huge salaries. The exodus of PAF pilots and aircraft mechanics to the private sector has worried Air Force officials, particularly Lt. Gen. Jose

Reyes, PAF commanding general. Another reason pilots and mechanics are leaving is the PAF lacks planes and helicopters, Padilla said.

What planes it has have been grounded, like all its P-5 jet fighters because of their lack of airworthiness like cracks in the fuselage.

Reyes said that for the PAF fighter pilots to maintain their flying proficiency in the meantime, they have to undergo periodic simulated flying.

The PAF and the Philippine Navy are high on the list of the modernization program of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, but fund lack has hampered any new acquisitions.

The Air Force's plan to acquire a squadron of 18 new multi-role aircraft has remained on the drawing board for two decades, while the air forces of countries around Asia have modemized their fleets.

Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand have modern fighter jets like the USmade F-16 and the F-29 Foxbat produced by

Dr. Saturnino P. Javier, an interventionist-

cardiologist at the Makati Medical Center,

confirmed the results of the angiogram done

suffering what was believed to be a heart at-

Jalosjos was confined at the hospital after

In a separate interview, Juanito Leopando,

penal superintendent at the New Bilibid Pris-

ons, said Jalosjos would be brought back to

the national penitentiary in Muntinlupa City

Jalosjos has refused to return to NBP be-

cause of alleged threats to his life. He said he

had information he would be killed on his way

back to the prison or once he is back inside. He

did not say who wanted him dead, however.

Estrellado, was out of the country.

on Jalosjos to the INQUIRER.

tack in his cell on Oct.2.

"on Monday, at the latest."

Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. lauded cial committee on food security in the necrological services. 13th Congress.

RER BENJAMIN Cruz (party-list Butil Farmers Party) died on Friday after an illness. He was 70.

Cruz for his "legacy as a consistent advocate of the Filipino farmer sector."

House as a party-list lawmaker and had been appointed chair of the spe-

Party-list Rep. Benjamin Cruz dies at 70

"The House mourns the passing of peasant organizations. Carlito Pablo

Cruz was on his second term in the Ben Cruz," De Venecia said. He said Cruz's remains would be brought to the lower chamber next week for

Cruz had long been identified with

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a phone interview.

By Nancy C. Carvajal

Jalosjos may be discharged, says doc

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The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

5 churches hit by bomb explosions across Baghdad

BAGHDAD-Bombs exploded near later at Saint Thomas church in Mansour, to five churches around Baghdad on Saturday morning followed by an artillery shell striking in a hotel parking lot near a sixth church, causing damage but no casualties, officials said.

"There were five explosions caused by im-provised bombs near to these churches," said Col. Adnan Abdel Rahman, an interior ministry spokesperson.

The patriarch of the Chaldean Church, Msgr. Emmanuel Delly, expressed the fears of his beleaguered community.

"If the government is powerless, what can we do?" Delly said.

"We call on them (attackers) not to touch the holy sites." In an apparently coordinated strike against Iraq's tiny Christian community, g the church of Saint Joseph in the west of the Iraqi capital was hit at about 4:00 a.m. (0100 GMT), the spokesperson said.

Twenty minutes later, another blast ripped through the streets at another Saint Joseph church, in Dora, southern Baghdad. After another 20 minutes, Saint Paul's church was struck in the same area.

At 4:50 a.m., the Roman Catholic St. George church in the central district of Karrada was rocked by a blast and engulfed in flames, leaving the wood-built sanctuary completely charred.

A fifth explosion occurred about an hour jority Muslim,

the west.

The violence resumed hours later when an artillery shell was fired into a car park between a hotel and Saint George's Anglican church, witnesses and US soldiers said.

"There were no injuries," said Tassin Ali, a security guard who had been sitting at the front gate to the hotel.

The projectile struck directly opposite the church but it was unclear whether it had been the target, an AFP reporter said.

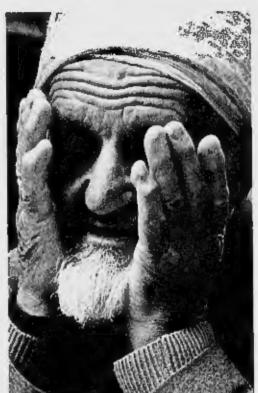
About five cars were damaged in the blast. The US military said it knew of three explosions in the vicinity of the churches. One church caught fire after an explosion inside the building; a bomb exploded outside a second church, and a Molotov cocktail was thrown at a third, said Maj. Philip Smith.

Iraq's Christian community has been heavily targeted in the unrest that has swept Iraq following last year's US-led invasion and some have picked up and left.

At the start of August, four attacks against Christian targets in Baghdad and two others in Mosul left 10 people dead and 50 injured.

Besides large-scale attacks, liquor stores, owned by Christians, have been blown up by Islamic militants.

There are only about 700,000 Christians in Iraqi, or three percent of the country's population of some 25 million people, which is ma-



THE CHURCHES were bombed as Muslims across the world marked the first days of Ramadan, a month of fasting, prayer and giving. Photo shows a Turkish Muslim praying

New York oil price bolts to record \$55

crude oil price bolted to a Department said. record \$55 a barrel Priday as traders fretted about stretched supplies, hot demand and thin stocks of winter heating fuel.

New York's benchmark contract, light sweet crude for delivery in November, shot to an unprecedented SS dollars a barrel before closing at a record settlement of 54.93, up 17 cents on the day.

Brent North Sea crude for November hit 50.12 dollars but speech here. closed at 49.93 dollars, down 16 cents.

New York crude boomed as traders rode the momentum of a near 70-percent surge so far this year, Refco market analyst Marshall Steeves said.

"I think the momentum is going to keep it going for a while," Steeves said.

Crude oil prices have soared on concerns that producers are pumping at near full capacity to meet voracious global demand, particularly from China and India, leaving no wriggle room for any supply interruptions.

Market fears deepened after a US government report Thursday showed commercial heating oil supplies dripping lower, Steeves said.

"Obviously as we move into late October and November, conditions will get colder in the northeast where most of the heating oil is consumed," the analyst said.

of distil-Inventories lates-mostly diesel and heating oil-dropped 2.5 million barrels to 120.9 million in the

NEW YORK-New York's main week to Oct. 8, the US Energy

The market fears that the US is running out of time to build winter fuel supplies, which are also short in Europe and Asia," analysts at the Sucden brokerage firm said in London.

High oil prices should have a more muted impact on US economic growth and inflation than the 1970s oil shock, however, Pederal Reserve chair Alan Greenspan said in a

But the harm could intensify if oil prices moved "materially higher," he warned,

The Federal Reserve boss said in a speech here that he believed "part of the recent rise in spot prices is expected to wash out over the longer run," "In a round-about Way Greenspan kind of gave the green light for prices to go higher," by making the case that the economy could withstand rising energy costs, said Alaron Trading analyst Phil Flynn.

Earlier in the day, suspension of a general strike in major crude producer Nigeria had helped to cool prices a little, traders said.

World oil prices have more than doubled from about 20 dollars a barrel in New York at the start of 2002, surging by nearly 70 percent in New York since the start of this year.

Adjusted for inflation, however, they remain far below the levels reached in the wake of the 1979 Iranian revolution when prices surged to upwards of 80 dollars a barrel in today's

US soldiers killed, 3 wounded in Afghanistan

KABUL-Two US troops were killed and three wounded by a mine detonated by remote control in Afghanistan's south central - province of Uruzgan, the US miliage tary said Saturday.

We had five casualties, two District in the south of the

killed in action and three injured in action," US military spokesperson Scott Nelson told AFP, adding the troops were all US nationals.

They had been on a routine patrol Thursday in the Deh Rawood

province when the mine was detonated as they passed by, he said. A remote-controlled bomb also

killed five people in the east of the violence-plagued country, an Afghan official said.

liceman, were killed in eastern Kunar province late Friday after the bomb exploded near a truck supplying food to US bases.

The truck had been stopped and set on fire by suspected loyalists of The five, who included a po- the ousted Taliban regime. AFP



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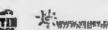
















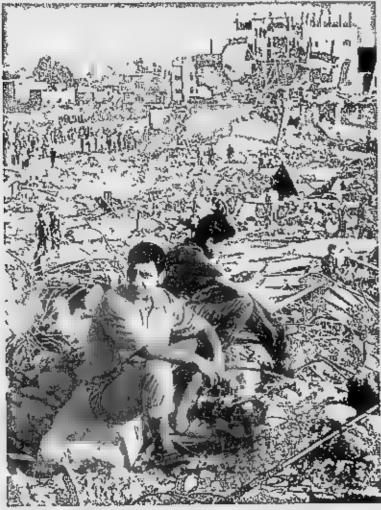












PALESTINIANS sit on the rubble of their house demolished by Israeli buildozers, after Israeli tanks withdrew from the jabalya refugea camp at northern Gaza Strip Oct. 16.

Israel ends huge Gaza offensive

GAZA!—Israeli tanks rumbled out of the Gaza Strip on Friday, ending a massive 16-day offensive that killed at least 100 Palestinians in an attempt to stop rocket fire into the Jewish state.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon ordered the biggest raid into Gaza in the past four years of conflict under pressure to crush militants ahead of a planned withdrawal from the occupied territory by the end of 2005.

It followed the killing of two toddlers in an Israell town on Sept. 29

by a rocket fired from Gaza.

Witnesses said all 200 tanks and armored vehicles in northern Gaza had withdrawn. Palestimans watched as tanks rolled out, then thronged the streets in celebration. Hamas Islamic militants claimed the withdrawal as a victory.

An Israeli military source said the pullout was meant to ease restrictions on Palestinians during the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan. Sharon's spokesman said they would return if there were more rocket attacks.

"We will move in and act whenever we feel there is threat," said

The offensive left a trail of destruction in northern Gaza Witnesses said electricity was knocked out in the town of Beit Hanoun. Troops had also uprooted many olive and citrus groves, which

Israel says gave rocket squads a place to hide. Tanks that had rumbled through crowded neighborhoods damaged homes and tore up roads and water pipes.

Palesnnian medics said Israeli forces killed at least 62 militants and 42 other Palestimans believed to be civilians.

Gunmen killed three Israelis in north Gaza and a Thai farm worker in a retaliation raid.

Four Palestinians were killed on Friday, including a 75-year-old woman who was shot dead while enting her evening meal, breaking the fast on the first day of Ramadan. Palestiman medics and witnesses said Israeli gunfire killed the woman, but a military source said it was not clear who killed her

The Islamic group Hamas, many of whose militants have been killed by Israeli forces during the raid, said it considered the pullout a victory.

"The Zionist army has retreated in defeat from all the positions," sak Hamas spokesman Fathi Hammad. "We consider it a victory for our resis tance." Israel: Deputy Defense Minister Zeev Boim had said the operation had largely achieved its goal, though several Qassam rockets struck the southern Israeli town of Science on Friday, without causing casualties.

Qassam attacks have complicated Sharon's efforts to overcome right ist opposition to his plan to remove all 21 Gaza settlements and four o 120 in the West Bank, starting next May.

Polls show most Israelis support a Gaza pullout, regarding the area as too costly in lives and money.

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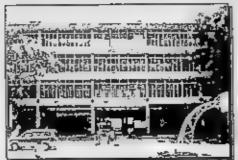


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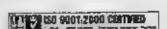
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POPE John Paul II celebrating a mass of beatification, Sept. 19, 1999. The pontiff, whom prelates like to joke has buried many of his successors, quietly celebrated the 26th anniversary

of his election as pope Oct. 16, 2004.

5 nations

win seats

on UN

Council

UNITED NATIONS-Argentina, Denmark, Greece, Japan and Tanzania on Friday won

coveted two-year terms

on the UN Security

Council at a time when

pressure is mounting to

expand the powerful

The 191 nation

all unopposed, to fill --

UN General Assem-

bly elected the five,

vacancies created by

the departure of An-

gola, Chile, Germany,

Pakistan and Spain

The council has five

States, Britain, France,

Russia and China-

and 10 nonpermanent

seats, chosen by region,

five of which change

Brazil, the Philippines

and Romania, which

began their terms in

January 2004, will re-

main on the council

cil is responsible for

The Security Coun-

for another year.

hands every year.

Algeria,

mem-

United

Benin,

on Dec. 31

реппапели

15-nation body.

Spain royals hold throne due to forgery, book says

family occupies the throne because France's Sun King Louis XIV forged a will, two Italian authors claim in a forthcoming book.

His aim was to prevent a member of the Hapsburg family, rulers in much of Europe, from succeeding the Hapsburg King Charles II Faiello, accredited experts to the

by Rita Monardi and Francesco Sorti, who in 2001 published "Imprimatur," an inquiry into the secrets of the Vatican and intrigue at the court of Louis XIV.

Like its predecessor, "Secretum" takes the form of a historical novel but according to Sorti it is based on research in French for-

T S

Marucelliana Library in Florence.

As part of their argument the authors asked two expert graphologists to examine the will argue. of Charles il, who died in 1700 aged 39.

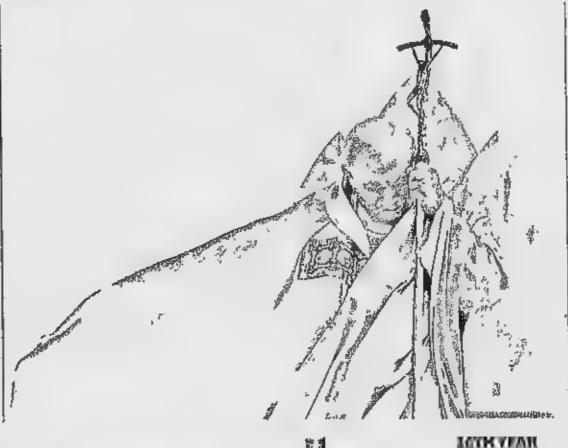
courts of Verona (northeast Italy) "Secretum" is the second work and Naples (south), said the docament they had been asked to review was a forgery.

be consulted on request

ROME—Spain's royal Bourbon eign ministry archives and the Hapsburg, as he had suggested he would, (King) Juan Carlos of Bourbon would not today be on the throne of Spain," the authors

"History would undoubtedly have been quite different. The Marina Tonini and Andrea will of Charles II had as a consequence the War of the Spanish Succession (1710-1714) which brought France and the whole continent to its knees," they said.

"If he had not taken the throne Their findings were deposited of Spain, Philip of Anjou would with a lawyer in Vienna and can without doubt have become King of France, There would not have Charles II died childless and in been the Regency (1715-1723) his will designated Phinp of An- and, who knows, perhaps there jou, nephew of Louis XIV, his heir. would not have been the French "If Charles II had chosen a revolution," said Sorti.





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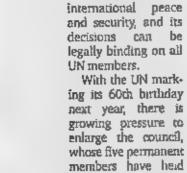


has produced

countless







since the end of World War II in 1945. Japan's new council seat could help its campaign for a permanent seat. Tokyo has joined forces with Germany, Brazil and India, all of whom say they should be represented perma-

onto their seats and

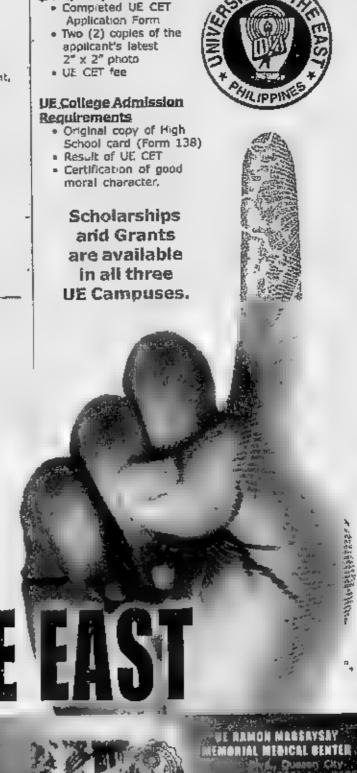
wielded veto power

nently on the council. Japan is the second largest financial contributor to the UN after the US, paying some 20 percent of the organization's

regular budget. Others seeking a permanent seat include Italy, Egypt, Nigeria and South Africa.

In Tokyo, Foreign Minister Nobutaka Machimura said Japan would use its two-year seat to help build the case for Security Council reforms, including a permanent seat for itself. Reuters





The WORLD

Bush rhetoric seen masking reality in Afghanistan

Manife Central University

KABUL-Three years after the US-led invasion, Afghanistan is flooding the world with heroin, warlords reign in the provinces, women are scared and the new security forces are underarmed and undersized, analysts say.

But as he bids for re-election, US President George W. Bush is trumpeting Afghanistan's own recent presidential polls as a symbol of success in nation-building.

His Democrat challenger John Kerry meanwhile makes the diversion of resources from Afghanistan to Iraq and the failure to nail Osama bin Laden three years ago key planks of his attack.

Bush's vision of success in Afghanistan since US forces helped overthrow the ultra-Islamic Taifoan in late 2001 is rose-tinted, the analysts say. But Kerry's criticism may be over-simplistic, they add.

"Bush has painted a rosier picture than exists on the ground... and expressed success prematurely," said Vikram Parekh,

Afghan affairs analyst for the Internationa. Crisis Group.

"When Bush presents Afghanistan as a country which has made great studes towards democracy. those claims lack credibinty," Riffat Hussein, head of strategic studnes at Pakistan's Quaid-e-Azam University, told AFR

Hussein and others cite three yardsticks for improvement in the war-torn central Asian land in the last three years: the creanon of a national security force; eradicating opium poppies, and disarming warlords' muitias.

"If we take these three or four areas to measure success, you will get a very mixed result," Hussein said.

"Militarily the country is under the control of the warlords and Karzai's government does not run beyond Kabul, Right now it's virtual warlord rule whether you look east, west, north or south of Kabui.

Litmus test is "One Afghanistan's progress in setting up its own army, initial goals were for 90,000 and they've not been able to raise beyond 15,000.

"This tack of a national army is directly related to the failure of the government to reign in opsum poppies."

Poppy cultivation is set to jump 40 percent this year, the CIA predicts, after a bumper crop last year supplied 90 percent of Europe's heroin and three quarters of the worldwide supply.

It brought in 2.3 billion dollars to Afghanistan last year, 35 percent of gross domestic product, making it the crippled economy's

biggest source of revenue.



end's peaceful and well-attended underscore women's emancipation." Parliamentary elections are on hold until April, because of insecurity and logistical problems.

"That's still going to be a formitiable task to administer," Parekh told AFP "By postponing it, we haven't addressed the obligations that we, the international community, have committed to."

Post-election claims by the US military that the Taliban are a spent force after failing to sabotage the elections, were "very much a premature conclusion," Parekh said.

Bush capitalized on the first vote on Oct. 9 being cast by a main dominated by militia and the refugee woman in Pakistan, to disarmament process has made

election was "only half an elec- non from Taliban-Imposed repression.

Outside Kabul, however, most are still in all-enclosing burques, and women are scared to speak

Human Rights Watch said a "pervasive atmosphere of fear" persists for women involved in politics. "Many Afghan women risk their safety if they participate in public life," it said in a report this month

Freeing the provinces from the rule of the gun was also a long

"Large parts of the country re-

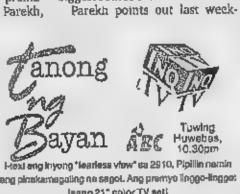
limited headway," Parekh said. Most Afghans told Human

Rights Watch they were more afraid of local military commanders than the Taliban. The crucial disarmament drive

in one year has stripped just over 10,000 militlamen of weapons, but at least 30,000 are yet to surrender them

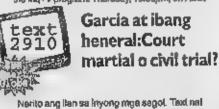
Kerry accuses Bush of making "a colossai error of judgment" in diverting resources from the hunt for bin Laden to the war in Iraq.

"Instead of using US forces, we relied on the warlords to capture Osama bin Laden when he was cornered in the mountains (in December 2001)," he said in a campaign speech.



eng pinakamegaling ne segot. Ang premyo linggo-linggo: Isang 21" color TV seti Hype: INCTV <ang inyong segot>, <buong pengalan>,

estyudad a probinsiya», tapos loadala sa 2910. Cul-oli timet WEDNESDAY, 6 PM. Winner will be identified during the InqTV program: Thursday, 10:30pm, on ABC.



"depat liring squed praid profisan" Ronald Babaran, Echague, Isabela

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Flaws

OUR days ago, the Singapore Straits Times picked up on the controversy involving errors in Philippine textbooks. Rather gleefully, it treated Singaporeans and other foreign readers to a catalogue of errors in a textbook, and a summary of the fight between the man who exposed those errors and our Department of Education. A fight, in true Philippine style, complete with full-

page ads and recriminations, followed by a stubborn refusal to act—and an equally typical announcement that reforms would be initiated by the DepEd.

Now that the DepEd has decided to do something about our error-filled textbooks, the country can move beyond the acrimony between the department and Antonio Calipjo Go. With the common objective now clear to everybody—to correct mistakes in textbooks and tighten up the procedures that allowed the approval of substandard textbooks and their entry into our education system—the question is: On whose lap should the responsibility for reforms fall?

It is a fact that the primary responsibility for the scandafous approval of flawed textbooks lies with the DepEd Equal responsibility lies with the publishers of these textbooks and those hired to prepare them. But the teachers

and parents are as much responsible.

** and parents are as much responsible.

** not only an indictment of the sloppy, irresponsible work—which verge on the criminal—and plain stupidity of people in the DepEd; they are also an indictment of the publishers who commission incompetent people to write textbooks, and then peddle these books to the DepEd and the schools.

Indicted, too, are the schools that accepted such books and foisted them on their students. Of these schools—and there certainly have been quite a number—that accepted such books, the public indeed has a right to ask: How on earth did these schools come to accept such books as fit for students? But blame should also go to parents, who didn't seem to have taken the time to look into what their children were being taught.

And remedies

S THE government goes ahead in purging the textbook system of corruption and plain stupidity, a call must be made for all sectors to do their part. Publishers must be held answerable for the content of the books they print and sell for educational purposes. Officials must be personally held responsible for the factual correctness of what they approve. Schools, too, must be held accountable, if not by the government, then by the parents, for what they require their students to buy and read. Teachers must institute ways for errors to be rectified and reported; and for receiving, handling and addressing complaints about instructional materials. And parents must not shirk their responsibility to supervise the education of their children. Too many sectors have been willing to pass on responsibility to the state, when what keeps the state responsible is the vigilance of its citizens.

The academic communities, too, may have been remiss or simply ignored. Professional academic associations are aplenty and they could have done their part in the issuance of a seal of approval for textbooks that cover their areas of expertise. At the very least, amid the pressing public call for a thorough review of schoolbooks, the door should be opened for them to step in and help out.

Finally, as we go about instituting the needed reforms, it may serve well to ask: In a time of economic hardship and dwindling resources, must so many different kinds of textbooks be published? And must every student have to purchase a brand new book?

In the past, Filipino students were issued a book at the start of the school year, which they had to return at the end of that same school year, to be passed on to the next class. This is the practice in many countries far richer than ours. Generations of Filipinos received a good education through the use of standardized books, such as the Osias readers. In the process of being issued and having to return a book, they saved money and learned to be respon-

sible stewards of books.

In the effort to deliver basic information, we wonder if having a flood of different textbooks isn't tantamount to squandering resources: financial, intellectual, and even moral.



The pathetic record of our public schools

I WAS appalled by the recent report that as many as 97.9 percent of the public high school seniors who took the National Achievement Test given by the Department of Education last April fatied to get the usual passing score of 75 percent. Their mean percentage score was only 50.08 in English, 36.80 in science and 42.20 in mathematics. Of the about 956,000 students who took the test, only 20.09 percent, or some 20,000 only, got a score of 75 percent or higher.

The report added that of the 1.4 million elementary school graduates who took the High School Readiness Test for admission to the secondary level, only 64 percent got a score of 75 percent or higher. Worse, half of the examinees failed to get a grade of even only 30 percent—and there were more than 500,000 of them.

I was appailed by these results, but I was not surprised. I had not expected much from our public school students, but I was alarmed just the same by their meager and disgraceful performance. It was such a pathetic contrast to the record of our public schools before the war, when we were still under the American administration.

For all their faults, these new imperialists—compared to their Castilian predecessors—taught our masses to read and write and
even chose the bright ones to go to American
colleges. We learned more about Washington
and Lincoln rather than Rizal and Bonifacio, but
at least it was a start, and soon enough we were
writing our own history. The popular education
introduced by the Thomasites and continued by
their successors made the Philippines the most
literate country in the whole of Asia and the
most fluent in English among the Orientals.

But that was in the past, and it is not true any more. Where before even the kutsero and the magsasaka could manage a halting conversation in English with the foreigner, now the ordinary seepney driver cannot understand the

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

street signs in what to them is a dead language. The little they know of English they have learned from the television and radio shows and not in school as before. The jingoistic view today is that knowledge of English, which other Asian nations are striving hard to learn, is anti-Filipino.

I am a product of the public school system and remember with pleasure how I studied at the Legarda Elementary School and the Mapa High School and then at the UP on Padre Faura. We didn't have computers then and I suppose the students today are taught more than we learned in our time when life was much simpler and there wasn't as much to understand as the present IT and the quantum theory. I myself don't remember much of what we studied in chemistry and calculus. But I have retained much from the poetry of John Keats, the novels of R Scott Fltzgerald and Mark Twain, and the wisdom of Cardozo.

The present system of public education in our country is in a sad state of neglect and deterioration. There is a dearth of competent and dedicated teachers, well-prepared textbooks, school buildings, classrooms, and campuses, adequate teaching equipment, and, yes, even of school spirit and pride. The students of the public school believe, and often rightly so, that they are inferior to the private school students who at least enjoy better opportunities for the improvement of their minds and bodies in the

ents can afford or try to. The present public school in the Philippines is a poor relation of the affluent private school, where before the comparison was reversed

One reason for the poor quality of our public school students today is the deleterious influence of show business. The movies, television and radio have conspired to cheapen the sense of values of such students in general and impaired their intellectual and other social virtues. A striking example is the decline of the simple virtue of courtesy, which was taken for granted before but is often a source of wonder now. Our generation was interested in school debates and oratorical contests, but students today would rather watch the vulgar antics of television clowns like Bong Revilla who is a comic first and a senator only second.

Senstor Revilla is the current proof of the cheapening of the election process and the degradation of our democracy. He doesn't even have the good taste to honor his position as an elected senator by dissociating it from his tasteless if more remunerative role as a comedian. His undiscriminating audience obviously behaves that a good buffoon will make a good senator. That audience should have learned its lesson from the laughable record of Revilla's predecessors but it had to show once again its misguided faith in the inanity of clowns in public service.

I have said often enough that the best way to cure our ailing democracy is to educate our people on the proper exercise of their suffrages. That is why it is imperative that we improve the quality of our schools as a first step toward civic consciousness. This is where we may begin to elevate their present pupils from mindless fans of undeserving harlequins to responsible thinking citizens. They must understand that public office is a serious business and certainly no joke.

Are you listening?

SOMEONE once told me that there are two signs that one is getting old. The first sign is that one gets to be forgotten. The second is...! forgot!

In today's Gospel (I.k 18, 1-8), Jesus teaches us to pray continually so that God will take notice, and will not forget. Just as the poor widow moved the judge to give in to her request, so too will God listen to our persistent prayers. God does listen, and He does answer all our prayers even if He delays at times, and often not according to the way we want it. The assurance is there: He is listening, He is in control, we are not alone.

Two frogs fell into a deep cream bowl: The one was wise, and a cheery soul.

The other one took a gloomy view / And bade his friend a sad adieu.

Said the other frog with a merry grin, / "I can't get out, but I won't give in;

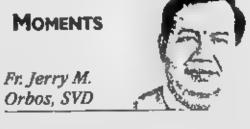
I'll swim around till my strength is spent, / Then I will die the more content."

And as he swam, though ever it seemed, /

His struggling began to churn the cream
Until on top of pure butter he stopped, /
And out of the bowl he quickly hopped.

So there are no hopeless situations, only people (and frogst) who have grown hopeless about their situations.

Pr. Charlie de Guzman, SVD, can tell you that persistence does pay. After 30 years, Rether Charlie finally made it to the priesthood. He entered Christ the King Seminary in 1974. In 1982, he left the seminary and went to America where he became the vice president for finance of a construction company. All through those years, the desire to become a missionary somehow never died. It was something He could not explain. Through it all, he kept close to Mama Mary. He prayed the rosary every day. Unable to deny the call, he re-entered the SVD seminary in Chicago and was ordained a priest (finally) last June 5, 2004. His



mission assignment is Spain. Pather Charlie is one of our 130 Filipino SVD missionaries working in some 35 countries all over the world, persistently continuing Christ's mandate to spread the Gospel to all creation.

My very own Papa is a very good example of humble (not manipulative) persistence. In particular, Papa told us, as children, how he was able to get the hand of Mama in marriage by continually writing to her. Even during World War II, he persisted in his letter-writing. Papa always told us that even if he was an "underdog," he showed his sincerity and goodness through the years, and in the end, Mama chose him from among her suitors. Bravo Papa! Papa's favorite saying through the years is "During trying times, don't stop trying"!

We can learn from our Muslim brothers and sisters who are not ashamed to pray in public. I and my group recently experienced something like this in transit while we were in the Singapore airport. We were praying the rosary in a quiet corner and there were many people who were edified. In fact, some even joined us. However, there were also those who laughed and even sneered at us, but it was one meaningful experience of persistent witnessing prayer. Have you ever experienced professing your faith to others, especially in unfavorable moments and situations?

Rio Diaz is one beautiful example of brave and persistent prayer. She who was dying of cancer gave so much hope and

meaning to so many people. A lot of beautiful things have been said about Rio and her achievements, but it was husband Charlie who summarized everything so beautifully when he said, "It is not Rio but the grace of God that made it all possible. May God be praised for using Rio and her sickness to give a message of love and hope to all people." Amen!

Speaking of cancer, my sister-in-law-Ditas had her first chemo treatment and began losing her hair recently. I know and I believe that the Lord will listen to our prayers for her. I was so touched when I heard that my 10-year-out nephew Gio told his Dad that both of them should shave off their hair just to be one with his Mom, and so that God will answer their prayers. What a thoughtful child. What a beautiful prayer!

The cries and the prayers of the poor, the oppressed and the downtrodden are especially heard by God. As God warned Solomon of Old, careful to you who have haughty eyes; have lying tongues; have hands that shed innocent blood, have hearts that devise evil schemes; have feet that are quick to rush to evil; have dishonesty; and have hearts that stir dissensions. Are you any of these? Don't we have an abundance of these in our country? Careful, careful! The cry of the poor is getting louder every day.

Congratulations to the winners of our Raffle for the Mission last Oct. 1: 1st prize—Menchue Mendex; 2nd prize—Cecilis S. Hata; 3rd prize—Grade VI St. Matthew DWCL; 4th prize—Emma Moses; 5th prize—Eling Lagazo; 6th prize—St. Jude Archdiocesan Shrine, 7th prize—Fania Cariño; 8th prize—Nami Sanchez; 9th prize—Elenits B. Andrade; and 10th prize—Ricel G. Hipe.

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, I believe, I know that you are always there, and that you are really listening. Amen.

OPINION.

A leadership vacuum in the Armed Forces

WHEN a crisis, he it natural or man-made, breaks out in a country, the leader who may be abroad on some mission usually breaks off from all his engagements and returns home immediately to rally his people and to restore confidence and morale among those badly

phaken by the disaster.

In the case of Gen. Narciso Abaya, chief of staff Ramon J. Farolan of the Armed Porces of the Philippines, in the midst of one of the gravest problems facing the AFP in recent years—perhaps even greater than the threats from the New People's Army or the secessionist forces in the south-he flew off to Tokyo for a defense conference attended by 32 colleagues from the Asia-Pacific region. He left his deputy, Vice Adm. Artston delos Reyes to face the wrath of a congressional committee which was bent on questioning Maj. Gen. Carlos E Garcla. The AFP chief of staff returned to Manila last Thursday evening Did he learn anything from his Tokyo trip which would benefit the AFP? Or was he too busy explaining to his counterparts what was happening in the AFP? Or how a member of his own staff could afford a Trump Park Avenue condominium in New York City? Frankly, if I were APP chief, I would be embarrassed to attend any foreign conference with other military leaders while hell was breaking loose on the home front. Perhaps, Abaya felt that the scandal was just a tempest in a teapot or he was hoping that things would blow over while he was away. But as President George W. Bush would taunt his Democratic opponent, Sen. John E Kerry in their recent debates, "You can run but you can't hide."

These days, the favorite target of congressional investigations is, of course, Major General Garcia (I use the rank because there are other Garcias in the news and we have to differentiate between the two.) But if you think about it seriously, Garclais, in a manner of speaking, finished. His reputation is in tatters; his assets have been frozen here and in the United States, and even his green card has been cancelled. His health is in precariREVEILLE

ous condition, and he faces prosecution and possible imprisonment. At this point, his best option is to hire a horshot criminal lawyer who will delay the legal proceedings until things cool down. He obviously has the money for the best lawyers in town as well as the finest medical practitioners in the business. And we are a people with brief attention spans and short memories, I doubt if he is going to make more enemies by spilling the names of people who may have been his associates in the money-making machine that he developed and perfected. Nevertheless, one should keep in mind that Garcia could not have done what he is accused of doing, all by his lonesome.

I have always held that our criminal justice system works reasonably well particularly in cases involving rape. Just remember former Rep Romeo Jalosjos, Galauan Mayor Antonio Sanchez, the Chiong sisters of Cebu, the Vizconde murders and in the past, actress Maggie dela Riva. In fact, most of the men on death row awaiting lethal injection are convicted rapists. But when it comes to graft and corruption, this is where the system falters. In rape cases, there is physical violence and personal violation involved. In corruption cases, there are no specific victims and usually no violence; and without the political will of the state, these cases end up unresolved. We often talk about "hig fishes" being caught, but the sad truth is, when the charges are related to graft and corruption, there are really no "big fishes" in Muntinlupa, only small ones. The truly big fishes have all the money in the

world to circumvent the justice system

While Garda is the subject of most media reports, we should also focus our attention on another aspect of the current crisis. There is now a dangerous leadership vacuum in the Armed Porces which, if left untended, could lead to grave repercussions. As in politics, whenever there is a perceived weakness in the leadership, there are groups of individuals, some well-meaning, waiting to step in to exploit the unrest and instability. The junior officers who participated in the Oakwood mutiny have been proven right. Their methods may have been wrong but their grievances were valid and legitimate. Obviously the reforms that were supposed to have been put in place because of this mutiny were useless and melfective since the scandal which has just erupted continued under the present leadership. It was only when US Customs authorities brought the matter to the attention of the Ombudsman did the AFP react. Unless concrete measures are taken to address grievances in the service, there will be more Oakwood mutinies on our hands.

Someone said that the single most important role of the leader is "setting an example." In any organization, the leader is the ultimate role model and the leader who sets the right example has the greatest credibility and influence among the people who work with him. The great task at hand of the commander in chief, President Macapagal Arroyo-perhaps the most important appointment of her young presidency—is to select the right man for the AFP leadership. He must be someone who can inspire and lead the officers and men back to the path of courage and sacrifice and not in pursuit of material benefits and comfort. He must be able to challenge the status quo and make the tough decisions which we know have to be made if we are to institute meaningful and lasting reforms. Most important of all, he must be the ultimate role model for our men

and women in uniform.

Arbet's case is GMA's 'highest priority'

I HAD flown to Cebu Friday to take part in the multi-sectoral indignation rally protesting the murder of human rights lawyer Arbet Sta. Ana-Yongco and demanding that her murderer, as well as the mastermind, be brought to justice at the soonest possible time.

What I didn't count on was meeting President Macapagal-Arroyo at Arbet's wake. Meeting with a small group of Cebu based women last Thursday, the President was asked if she could drop by Arbet's wake and meet with her family, who understand-

ably were devastated by her killing

The President arrived shortly after noon that day, accompanied by, among others, Tourism Secretary Ace Durano and presidential adviser Dodie Limcaoco. The President stayed for nearly an hour, and in response to the plea of Arbet's family and friends that she help speed up the investigation into Arber's killing, assured them that she was giving the case "the top priority." As if to demonstrate her resolve, the President then had Philippine National Police regional commander Gen. Rolando Garcia and National Bureau of Investigation regional director Reynaldo Esmeralda called.

Arber's friends in Cebu's legal community and civil society had complained that law enforcement agencies seemed to be at loggerheads in the investigation and had been issuing conflicting statements. Lawyer Liza Corro, president of the Fida Cebu chapter, had taken on the responsibility of coordinating with the different investigating bodies and the President called on her as well for a briefing. According to those distening to the exchange, the President then "ordered" Garcia and Esmeralda to "follow the women" and keep them all informed about developments on the case

The President also called Secretary Durano and asked him to coordinate all the efforts to help Arber's survivors, including scholarships for Arbet's orphaned children-Arfil, 11, David, 6 and Fig. 3—which I overheard Limcaoco negotiating over a cell phone. I hope all these plans push through, the response of a grateful nation for Arbet's supreme sacrifice.

AT LARGE Rina Jimenez-David

to the front of the provincial capitol—drew a truly eclectic and diverse crowd. From lawyers in their barongs and power suits, to community women in T-shirts and work clothes, the participants were a walking, yelling, clenched fistraising testimony to the number of people whom Arbet had helped through the years.

Democrito Barcenas, president of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, Cebu City thapter, drew cheers from the crowd when he pledged that 100 lawyers would be present on the first day of the bearing of the parricide case against Ruben Ecleo Jz., in which Arbet had served as private prosecutor and for which reason, many in Cebu suspect, Arbet was so treasonously gunned down.

But the trial will have to wait awhile. The

judge handling the case, the fifth in line, has just abstained from the case, and so the hearings will have to be raffled anew, which means the trial will have to start from scratch.

But Tess Fernandez, chair of Lihok Pilipina Poundation, noted that while the presence of a hundred lawyers taking Arbet's place in the Ecleo case would surely make a powerful statement, other lawyers will also have to take her place in other pro bono cases that she was handling before she was shot.

We can only hope that the response of Cabu's legal community to Arbet's murder has opened the eyes of lawyers in Cebu and elsewhere to the need for them to leave their "comfort zones" once in a while and bring the law to the service of those most in need.

THE MARCH and rally-from Puente Osmeña REMINDER: In observance of the ninth day of

prayers for Arbet, Pilipina, Abanset Pinay, Alternative Lawyers' Group (ALG) and the Women and Gender Committee of the Association of Major Religious Superiors of the Philippines (WGC-AMR-SP) and other civil society organizations will hold a Mass and testimonial in memory of Arbet and other victims of brutal killings on Thesday, Oct. 19 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the UP Philippine General Hospital Chapel, Taft Avenue, Malate, Manila

Supreme Court Chief Justice Hilario Davide, Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez and Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes, among other government officials, are expected to attend the services.

Similar memorial services, as well as indignation railies, have been held and will be held by Pilipina and Abansel Pinay in other parts of the country where they have chapters, as well as by other organizations that Arbet was part of or assisted.

At Arbet's wake, I also had the privilege of personally meeting the other members of her family, especially her mother Betty. She had one request, a clarification of the impression created in the column on "Arbet's story" that she was a completely self-supporting student while she was in college, "I also helped her," Mrs. Sta. Ana clari-"I had saved some money for her and my other children's (her son Nathan and daughter Fede) college education, because education was very important to me and my family," Mrs. Sta. Ana is a retired schoolteacher who chose to stay behind in their hometown of Allen, Northern Saman even if her children had relocated to Cebu

Another correction; the Women's Solidarity for Justice, whose statement on Arber's killing was run in full in this space yesterday, was founded some years ago in the wake of the kidnap-slaying of the Chiong sisters, another crime that cries to the heavens for justice, and not just after Arbet's murder. The Chiongs remain strongly committed to seeking justice for their daughters. In fact, Thelma Chiong not only helped found the Women's Solidarity for Justice, she has also become vice president of the victims' rights group, Cru-

sade against Violence

Electoral college tie?

HONOLULU-Everyone thought the 2000 US presidential election was wild. It was not only wild but upsetting, if you were a supporter of Democratic contender Al Gore. He won the popular vote by more than half a million, but failed to capture the electoral vote by losing Florida to Republican candidate George W. Bush, who won the Florida popular mandate by only 500 votes! And all because of the "butterfly ballot" fiasco, in

which voters, especially the elderly, got confused on which side of the ballot

COMMENTARY

they should be vot- Belinda A. Aquino

ing on. Also, there was the case of the "hanging chads" from the ballots, which made it impossible to count them as clear votes. By snagging Florida, Bush as a result won 271 electoral votes, just one over what was needed to win; and Gore was awarded 267 votes.

Many believe that the 2004 general election may even be wilder. And that it might be Florida again, a major swing state, which will deliver the presidency to whoever wins its popular vote. Or probably Ohio. Or Wisconsin. It could even be lown. Who knows?

The race is so tight and has been swinging wildly after every major event, especially the presidential debates. Before the debates, Bush, enjoying a "bounce" from the Republican Convention in New York, was ahead of John Kerry by some 6-8 percent. After the second debate, it became a dead heat 48-46 in favor of Kerry. After the third debate, the pundits called the contest "a sprint to the finish."

The pre-debates calculation was that Bush was leading in the electoral vote race, though both candidates were and still are, at this writing, short of the magic 270 electoral votes needed to win, Bush has 217 votes from 25 states, according to an analysis by Ron Fournier of Associated Press, based on state-by-state polls and interviews with political strategists across the country. Kerry, on the other hand, has 14 states and the District of Columbia in his column for a total of 193 votes, thus trailing Bush but not by much

So, according to the AP analysis, the 11 states considered the "swing states," which have a combined total of 128 votes, will spell the margin of victory. Whoever wins the popular vote in these states will automatically get the electoral college votes in a winner-take-all scheme.

Of these 11, Florida, Ohio, Iowa, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Wisconsin, Michigan and West Virginia are the toughest battleground states. If Kerry remains an underdog at 193 electoral votes, he needs another 77 to win. That's why he needs to win the swingest of the swing states with relatively more electoral votes-Ohio, Florida, Wisconsin, Michigan and Iowa.

But, according to Pournier, Kerry's best prospects may lie in the five swing states won by Bush in 2000: Ohio, Florida, Nevada, New Hampshire and West Virginia. Ohio, which has 20 electoral votes, and Florida with 27 are "must win" states for either Bush or Kerry, but especially Kerry. However, Florida is probably going to the Bush camp if only because his brother is the governor there. Bush has also visited the state more than 25 times, so he is expected to have a lot of supporters there. He also won Ohio in 2000, but the the state's lagging economy makes it a toss-up.

Kerry has strategized his campaign to woo Republicanleaning North Carolina by choosing the state's US Sen. John Edwards as his running mate. North Carolina is not really considered a "swing state," but both camps are not ignoring its 15 electoral votes, not insignificant in a close race. Bush

swept the southern states in 2000.

What if there's a tie in the electoral vote: Bush 269 and Kerry 2697 It is highly unlikely but not impossible. Political science professor Larry Sabato at the University of Virginia says, "Look, 269 to 269 is far from absurd." He continues, "There could be a Bush-Edwards incoming administration." Really now, isn't that even more absurd?

No, insists Sabato. It happened before—this electoral college tie. In 1800, the US House of Representatives took 36 votes to settle a draw between Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr by making Jefferson president, "You can bet an accidental Bush-Edwards victory would quickly turn the vice-presidency from powerful to puny," Sabato adds.

In case of a 2004 electoral college draw, the new House of Representatives, under the Constitution, would elect the president by majority vote, with each state's House delegation getting one vote. The US Senate would elect the new vice president by majority vote, with each senator getting one vote. The bottom line in this deadlocked scenario is that, if the Democrats gain two Senate seats in this year's election, the body could pick Edwards, of course-not Dick Cheney, the Republican vice-presidential candidate.

To extend this analysis, if the House votes in a Democratic majority, Kerry would be chosen president. And if the Republicans get a Senate majority, Cheney could get chosen vice president. Either combination will really be wild

Again, either scenario is certain to be improbable, but wild if it happens. Interesting, isn't it? You might ask, as I've often asked, why don't they just abolish the electoral conlege and simplify everything by just doing the popular vote? It's obsorete, it confuses people, and so on. Easier said than done. It's like asking a very religious person not to believe in God anymore. You cannot just toss out a great political tradition. It might have outlived its usefulness in ensuring fairness in elections, but it has become a hallowed tradition in the last 200 years.

But time will probably come for that change because the majority of young people, Americans at that, don't even understand this electoral college system. I have great difficulty making my students over the years understand the logic behind it. The state of Colorado is trying to change the formula for the electoral vote distribution based on the popular vote totals, not winner-take-all, in a proposed referen-

In the end, it's probably the 5 percent so-called "undecideds on election day" who will deliver the magic number. Many veteran pollsters have indicated that a full 5 percent of voters who intend to vote make up their minds only when they reach their polling booths. Apparently, there's another estimated 5 percent who make up their minds only during the last week of the election. So, in this hotly contested race with no clear winner in sight, it's only a matter of a few precious days, if not right down the wire, that we

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I DON'T believe in charity, I suspect we often do it. more for ourselves than for those we help, I also think it takes away the urgency from the need to reform society itself. But, in practice, I have trouble ignoring those who come to my door or knock on my car window for help

My problem is particularly with those who not only extend their hands for alms but also take time to tell their stories. I don't like looking into the defeated eyes of those who, by begging, have surrendered every measure of their pride as human beings.

"Give no bounties, make equal laws, secure life and property," advised Emerson, "and you need not give aims. Open the doors of opportunity to talent and virtue and they will do themselves justice, and property will not be in bad hands. In a free and just commonwealth, property rushes from the idle and impecile to the industrious. brave and persevering." Emerson is right. But ours has never been a just commonwealth. I refuse to think that the poor in our society are poor because they lack industry, bravery and perseverance.

I cannot forget being rebuffed by a young boy in his teens who was selling flannel cleaning cloth in the streets. "Eight for a hundred," he chanted, fixing his eyes on me. "I just need to sell one more set before I go to school," he said in a tone of exhaustion, Indeed, he was in a school uniform. "Sorry, I just bought some the other day," I responded with genuine regret, "but here take these," I said, offering him a couple of peso coins. He looked at me unsmiling, and chided me with these words: "Sir, I am not begging, I am selling." I falt slighted. I wanted to tell him that I meant well and that he should not be so proud. But, I checked myself why shouldn't he be proud? As he walked away, I silentby rejoiced in the thought that at least one boy in the streets would someday make it in the world.

Since then I have been very cautious in dealing with hawkers and beggars in the streets. Whether I give or not, buy or not, I make it a point to look at the face before me, as an act of recognition. It is the least I can do for another human being. "The

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David



face speaks," the philosopher Levinas writes, lacommunicates its vulnerability at once: "there is an essential poverty in the face; the proof of this is that one tries to mask this poverty by putting on poses, by taking on a countenance."

Recognition, however, triggers a relationship, whose ethics I do not easily navigate. To this day, being in the presence of a person begging for help always produces in me a profound unease. I feel defenseless and trapped; this man is not my responsibility, I tell myself, but why can't I ignore him? He is one of us, that is why, and no Filipino should live without hope, or go without help when he needs it. He is my responsibility, and the concreteness of his situation mocks the abstractness of everything I write or espouse, I have no right to require a rational accounting of a man's

despair before I give help. A little context might explain these musings. About three weeks ago, a frail young man came to my house and introduced himself as Angelo. Though his face was vaguely familiar, I was quite sure I had not met him before. He said he used to work as a contractual janitor at the Palma Hall building in the UP Diliman campus where I teach. He told me that his daughter had been bitten in the head by a rabid dog and needed expensive anti-rabies shoes. He said he had been able to raise P700 and he needed P300 more. I felt very sorry for this young father, a picture of desolation and shame. He had been jobless for a while, he said. I hardly said anything; I gave him the money and

Angelo showed up again the other day a little

paler than before. Before I could recognize him, he shook my hand. He said he had come to inform me that his daughter had died. She needed more injections and he had been unable to raise the money to buy the expensive shots. I looked at him in disbelsef, wondering how many times things like this happen in our hospitals. He had come this time to ask for some money to buy biscuits and coffee for people at the wake. For some strange reason, I instantly thought of all the billions spent during elections, the trillions paid for the public debt, and the distressing state of our public hospitals.

Perhaps Angelo's desperation was infectious; I suddenly felt agitated and angry. I found myself grilling him about the hospital to which he had brought his daughter and the doctor who attended to her. I asked him if he had sought the help of the Department of Social Welfare and Development, or the Philippine Charity and Sweepstakes Office, My reaction confused him. He looked at me with sad uncomprehending eyes, and I realized I had not even offered him my sympathies When he left, I knew I had behaved very badly. I don't remember how much I gave him. I could have given him all the money in my pocket that day, and it would not have erased the unwarranted pain I had caused him

I wish I knew when to stop being a social anatyst or a political activist. The man had come seeking compassion, and I gave him a lecture and an interrogation, Too often, I think we fail to conduct ourselves as human beings for others because our moral or ideological righteousness gets in the way of our basic responsibility.

Every poor man who comes to us begging for help has a story to tell. We may never know how much truth there is in these tales. But does it really matter? In such encounters I think we must keep our doubts to ourselves, not say anything, and only listen. Levines sums it up with this line from Dostoyevsky: "We are all responsible for all and for all men before all, and I more than all the others."

Comments to davidinguirer prahoo.com

TALK of the TOWN

Please send feedback to parmiento@inquirer.com.ph

Food for all: Can we achieve it? (2)

issue of Talk of the Town, a group has proposed a plan to eradicate in 10 years rural poverty in Mindanao where about a quarter of households have been found to suffer from hunger.

Kasanyangan Mindanao Foundation, Inc. (KFI) disagrees with the claim of Alternate Forum for Research in Mindanao (Afrim) that the drive of agribusmess to produce cash crops like banana, pineapple and palm oil for the export market has contributed to poverty and chronic hunger on the island.

KFI identifies low productivity in rice, corn and coconut lands as the main cause of poverty in rural households.

Expanding agribusiness as practiced by the multinational firms Dole and Del Monte to six million hectares of agricultural land and applying the strategy to coffee, rubber,

EACTING to the article "Hunger stalks the country's food basket" in last week's mango, native bananas, vegetables, soya beans, livestock, dairy and cotton could wipe out poverty, according to the foundation.

In its riposte, Afrim says that the problem with agribusiness is that everything is placed at the control of the transnational corporations and the big Filipino companies, which appropriate the profits.

Not mentioned in the debate is the fact that agribusiness promotes monocropping that is heavily dependent on costly chemical fertilizers, pesticides and machinery. Monocropping also relies on the intensive use of energy, especially oil.

Increases in productivity have come at a huge cost-soil erosion, pollution, elimination of the family farm, concentration of land, among others. In addition, studies have shown that Western-style agriculture is not sustainable.

Agribusiness can wipe out rural poverty

By Ibarra A. Malonzo

a a loyal Mindanacan, I share Billy de la Rosa's sense of outrage in his ar-"Hunger stalks the country's food basket" in Talk of the Town on Oct. 10, referring to Mindanao where a third of the population lives below the poverty line and go to sleep starving half the year.

I also agree with his conclusion that government, rather than giving out food coupons to solve mass hunger, should take a strategic approach by hastening the peace process and re-examining its agricultural policies.

But I disagree with the analysis of De la Rosa, executive director of AFRIM, that the cause of widespread poverty is "export-oriented agribusiness strategy." On the contrary, it's the absence of a well-rounded agribusmess strategy that addresses local, national and global markets, that is the bane of agriculture. Most of the country's agriculture and forestry lands are still in a subsistence mode of development.

It is not clear, though, what De In Rosa is objecting to, Is it the export destination of crops, or their being high-value crops, or the involvement of big agribusiness cor porations, or is it the whole agribusiness strategy? He singles out "pineapple, bananas, oil palm and other high-value crops" as prime examples of the grievous error of replacing lands planted to food staples such as rice with these high-value crops.

What, in fact, is the impact of these crops on Mindanao's farmlands and economy? Out of six million hectares of agricultural lands, commercial pineapple and bananas for export take up only 70,000 hectures. In 2000, 30,000 hectares of pineapple plantations made \$140 million in export earnthgs equivalent to P257,000 per hecture. In the same year, 40,000 hectares planted to export banames earned \$245 million equivelent to P335,000 per hectare.

lands yield an average of 4,000 kitos of polay per hectare valued at

P40,000. Irrigated and rain-fed nce lands total a million hectares with the latter having lower yields. Mindanao has 2 milion of the country's 3.5 million hectares of coconut lands that yield an average of one ton of copra per hectare per year. At the current price of P20 per kilo, this amounts to P20,000 per hectare yearly. Likewise, Mindanao has a million hectares planted to corn with an average yield of 2.5 tons per hectare per year valued at P20,000 at current prices.

Rice, corn and coconut lands in Mindanao total 4 million hectares with an average annual yield of P25,000 per hectare. With an average of 1.5 hectures, a farming household's gross income amounts to P37,500 yearly, or a net of P16,450 half of which goes to production costs. Add P20,000 from other income sources, thus raising the farming household income to P36,450, which is half of the poverty line of P70,000

Main cause of poverty Low productivity of corn, rice and other farmlands is the main cause of poverty in rural house-

On the other hand, 70,000 hectares of pineapple, and bananas easily create 280,000 jobs, of which 70,000 are in direct employment and the remainder, in auxiliary employment, servicing requirements of the plantations, factories and workers' communities (e.g. education, mechanics, shops) The 70,0000 workers directly employed as workers in banana and pineapple plantations earn twice the average minimum. daily mandated wage. This does not include the income of landowners most of whom are agrarian reform beneficiaries.

Dole and Del Monte do not own a single piece of agricultural land. Dole leases 8,500 hectares from DARBCI (Dole Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Cooperative, Inc.), which also manages a 200-hectare pineappie plantation as grower and sells its products to Dole Dole also engages in pineapple grower-In comparison, irrigated rice ship covering 3,000 hectares of small farmlands that are consoledated farms managed by coopera-



tives. The yield of cooperative

growers in Dole equals, if not exceed, the average yield of plantations directly managed by Dole.

Del Monte, on the other hand, leases 5,000 hectares from DEARBCI (Del Monte Employees Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Cooperative, Inc.) and leases the rest from other small

Dole-Stanfilco banana planrations in Davao have all been covered by agrarian reform and are now under growership agreements between Dole-Stanfiled and beneficiaries-turnedgrowers. Pormer plantation workers turned beneficiaries own an average of not more than one hectare. Many beneficiaries earn as much as P100,000 a year in het income from a hectare of land, excluding wages if they work.

Palm oil Let's turn to paim oil. We have only 20,000 hectares of oil palm plantations categorized thus, 15,000 hectures fruitbearing and \$,000 hectares of immature trees. The productive 15,000 hectares generate 50 tons of crude palm oil and palm kernel oil yearly valued at \$25 million These are refined into cooking oil and consumed locally, saving our economy \$25 mil-Lon in imports.

Still we import 150,000 tons of palm oil and by-products yearly worth \$75 million. A noted agricultural economist believes the country, in fact, imports twice this amount. By this reckoning, we need 150,000 becrares of ou paim. plantations today to save \$150 million in imports

Why do we import palm oil instead of consuming our own coconut oil? The reason is that coco oil is more expensive than palm oil by 30 percent on the world market. Fast food chains and food manufacturers prefer to use the cheaper palm oil

What if the government follows De la Rosa's food first policy and stops the export of coco oil? Seventy percent of coco oil is now exported. The price of copra will plunge to P5 a kilo, giving the farmer a gross income of PS,000 per hectare a year. Farmers will not harvest their coconuts at this price. They would rather cut their trees for sale as coco lumber but there will be nobuyers for this volume of coco wood

Should President Macapagal-Arroyo follow De la Rosa's prescription of food first and no to coco oil exports, the 2 million coconut farmers will most probably burn their 3.5 million hectares of coconut lands (2.1 million of which are in Mindanao) in protest and Malacannng, Congress and the Supreme Court will not be spared the farmers' wrath.

Expand agribusmess I submit that the problem of Mindanao's widespread poverty and hunger is not brought about by export-oriented agribusiness strategy, instead we should spread the application of Dole and Del Monte's agribusiness strategy to the six million hectares of agricultural lands, most of which are marginal and unproductive. Contrary to popular perception, agribusiness strategy can be applied to small ing the supply chain from produc-



ELLISTIATION BY ANTHONY HISTAGES MAGE DESIGN BY ERNIE SAMBO

family farms as well as to corporate estates

By applying hybrid agriculture? technology employed by Bukidnon farmers on 50,000 hectares of corn lands, we can easily raise the yield to four tons per hectare. With four million tons of corn in Mindanao, we will have enough corn to cover the deficit of one million tons that we import yearly. There will still be two million tons left to export.

Market solutions

By planting the Philippine Coconut Authority "sinvar" (synthetic cultivar from nine cultivars) and following its fertilization and maintenance protocols, coconut will yield four tons of copra per year. We can supply all the world's requirements of coco oil. If we go into downstream manufacture of higher-priced products such as shampoo, soap, lotion and facial cream, not to mention the miraculous virgin oil, the Phil ppines can give the Malaysian oil palm industry a run for its money.

The same agribusiness strategy can be applied to coffee, rubber, mango, native bananas (kontobo, lakatan, latundan, señorita, etc.), vegetables, soya beans, livestock, dairy cotton, all of which are being imported in great volumes because of our poor productivity. We can then wipe out rural poverty in 10 years.

What do I mean by agribusiness strategy? It is applying science and technology to farming and market solutions to agriculture. It involves organizing and manag-

tion (farm machinery, seeds, breeds, technology, credit) to post-harvest (dryers, silos, slaughterhouses, refrigerated vans) to manufacture (flour and feed milis, corn flake factories) to transport (ships, ports, trucks, and Ro-Ro) and, finally, marketing to deliver the goods to endusers or customers.

Agribusiness strategy is the opposite of subsistence and marginal farming prevalent in Philippine agriculture and the principal cause of poverty and hunger in Mindanao.

Union busting Agribusiness practice in the Philippines is not all sweetness and light. From 35 years of trade union work among corporate plantation workers in Mindanao, I personally know of the prevalence of union bushing and abor explostation by agribusiness corporations

Lalso know from 15 years' experience working in agrarian reform la Mindanao's plantations how corporations have made a mockery of agrarian reform through leaseback agreements

One palm oil corporation has such an agreement on 8,000 hectures of oil palm plantation lands at rentals less than 5 percent of the value of farm gate production, that is, P3,000 per hectare per year out of a produce of P60,000 per hectare. But such abominable practices do not negate the value of corporations' contribution to raise land productivity and incomes of workers and farniers.

I also have my beer against gov ernment's agricultura, policies in Mindango, Not that they are wrong, but these policies, in the main, consist of cheap and meaningless words. I support the ambitious goal of

the President to develop two to three million hectares of land into agribusiness over the next six years. But my question is, how will the President back up her words with deeds?

(Tharra A. Malonso is the president of Kasanyangan Mindanoo Foundation, Inc. [KFI], a Zamboanga City-based group advocating agrarian reform. and rural development, KFI supports progressive contract farming arrangement with Agustan Milling Corp., which produces palm oil in Trento. Agusan del Sur as well as with Mire dance Greins Corp. in Aglayan, Bukidnon and with Dole Philippines in Polomolok, South Cotabata.)

Corporate farming won't ease hunger in Mindanao had been notorious for their anti- are promoting the development of

By Billy de la Rosa

There are agribusiness strategies and agribusi ness strategies. Certainly, the one spearheaded by government and the landlordtransnational combine în Mindanso hasn't eradicated poverty and hunger in Mindanao. One hopes that this is not the one being defended by Ibarra Malonzo. I hope I'm right to think that he is not saying that poverty and hunger in Mindanao are due to the fact that there is not enough of the kind of agribusiness that is now being promoted in the country's food basket.

If one goes by the numbers that he presents, agribustness is indeed the way to go. But what he faux to mention is that transpationals and Filipino agribusiness capitalists are the ones who appropriate the profits. Policy makers and government regulators have done little to protect the rights of the small farmer in agribusiness contracts. This was what I was referring to when I said that the

promised prosperity in agribusiness had not been realized for many Mindanagans despite the untold wealth that was created by agribusiness.

Leaseback arrangement

The same export numbers had been cited by agribusiness companies to justify their anti-agrarian reform position. They say that agranan reform will destroy the economies of scale of plantations. To circumvent the Comprehensive Agrazian Reform Program (CARP), companies like Dole and Del Monte inverted the leaseback scheme in which plantations covered by CARP were immediately leased back to the company for extended periods--some up to 60 years-at amounts that would make the word pittance spell generous.

Malonzo mentions the oil palm plantation in Agusan as guilty of this and goes on to admit that plantation companies operating an Mindanao are among the worst violators of workers' rights. He was quick, however, to say that these practices do not negate the value of the corporations' contribution to productivity and incomes

But these practices are precisely what keep Mindanao and its people poor. And this is precisely the brand of agribusiness being promoted by the current administration in the name of promoting the food basket podey. I hope that by challenging President Macapagal-Arroya to back up her words with deeds, Maionzo does not want her to do a Marcos by declaring huge areas of land under government ownership and leasing these to agribusiness companies—Filipino or foreign-just like what he did for oil paim in Agusan and bananas in Davao del Norte

Company control

Lagree with Malonzo that there is an urgent-need to re-examine agricultural policy for Mindanao. There is nothing wrong with vertical integration and value addition as he defines it in the article. The question is, who controls and who benefits from agribustness? What is terribly wrong with the agribusiness strategy as it is currently implemented is that everything is placed at the control of the companies—the same ones that

people practices, which Malonzo fought against in his days in the labormovement

The Philippines should develop an agro-industrial policy that answers its own needs, and not one that follows (gaya gaya) what companies from other countries want us to do

Take the case of the administration's oil palm plantation promotion program, Palm oil started as a low quality vegetable oil, which was described by some industry experts as similar to automatic transmission fluid of automobiles in color and smell. But, because of the effort and resources which Malnysia put in research and development, it is now the world's premier traded oil.

Within a few short decades, k has overtaken by leaps and bounds the Philippines' coconut oil in importance in the global markets of vegetable oils. Because it pioneered in palm oil research and development, Malaysia now stands as the world's paint oil king, controlling its technology and markets. Now, its companies

oil palm plantations in countries with similar climate as a strategy to make it the dominant oil worldwide, overtaking soya oil. Malaysian companies are looking for partners to provide land for oil palm plantations in Mindanae.

The lessons of palm orl's success seem to be lost on the country's policy makers. Coconut has declined in the world market because, unlike Maiaysia, the Philipomes did not invest in research and development. Today, we would rather ride on Malaysia's success than pioneer in coconut research and development.

PCA for palm oil

The Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) is being mobilized to promote of palm expansion rather than its original mandate to promote the ecconut industry. This is tantamount to throwing away the country's leadership in the world's coconut industry.

What Mindanao needs is an agricultural policy that begins and ends with people.

Not too long ago, Marcos took 8,000 hectures of land from set-

tlers and hanads in Agusan del Sur and gave it to a Malaysian company to develop an oil pa.m plantation

Lost Command

Driven out of their land, the people went straight into the waiting arms of the communist rebeis. To defend the plantation, the company hired the services of the notorious Lost Command. Thus, started the spiral of violence in Agusan

Today, calling of palm the "tree of peace," government is promoting oil polm plantation expansion in all parts of Mindanao. Indigenous communities have started to complain about violation of their rights in the course of plantation expansion in their ancestral domain.

is this the type of agribusi ness that will bring prosperity to the people of Mindanao?

(H.lly de la Rosa is executive director of the Alternate Forum for Research in Mindanao [Afrim], a research and advocacy organination based in Davao City.)

c/o Cubu Darly News 18-15 Escario St., Gebu City Tel Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349 Fax No. (032) 232-9938

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Basilan sheds off its image as Abu-Sayyaf ravaged island

MALUSO, Basilan-US Ambassador to the Philippines Francis Ricciardone noted the transformation of this province from an Abu Sayyaf-ravaged island to a growing economic hub in Mindanao.

"From the looks of it, Basilan is transformed. That's what we have hoped, a combination of development assistance, working with the local government units, government agencies, non-government organizations and with the wise work of the AFP that judictionally used their force against the bad elements," Ricciardone told reporters here Wednesday.

The US ambassador visited Maluso town where a port improvement is being implemented by the Growth Equity in Mindanao (GEM) thru USAID funding.

The economy is coming up. Projects like these are intended to connect the islands, to connect the economy and the people prosper," he said.

Carlos Tan, the GEM's deputy program manager on infrastructure, told the laquirer that their projects are focused mostly on conflict affected areas in Mindanao, particularly in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

Andrew Nastios, the USAID administrator, said Basilan has the biggest share of GEM-USAID community level projects in Min-



RICCIARDONE, with Gov. Wahab Akbar (center), visits Basilan which he described as a most improved province. TROY HALCOLY DISTRIBUTION OF BRIDGE AND ALCOLY DISTRIBUTION OF BRIDG

danao. Of the 700 projects introduced and accompushed, Basilan

"We are here to emphasize this pledge and help to the Philippine government and help them to sta-

bilize peace," Nastios said.

Gov. Wahab Akbar said the province has placed 18th nationwide for revenue collection this

the country. Now we are surviving and growing," Akbar said.

ARMM Gov. Parouk Hussin also said that ARMM, known for its "We have been tagged before megative image as the "most trou-

as the 20th poorest province in bled spot in the country, has become one of the provinces with the lowest crime rate based on the statistics of the Philippine Nationa, Police," Julie Alipala, PDI

Mundanao Bureau

26 employees of water agency sacked for joining rally

By Joey A. Gabieta PDI Visayas Bureau

TACLOBAN CITY-The Leyte ployees and suspended two others for joining a rally in February staged by militant groups against the management.

The employees, who held various positions at the LMWD, received the termination and susnoon, an hour before they were

about to go home. All were members of the Confederation for Unity, Recognition and Advancement of Government Employees (Courage)-East-

employees.

Metropolitan Water District tary general in Eastern Visayas, Camalig, Renato Dael, Bernardo (LMWD) has dismissed its 26 cm- and one of those sacked by LMWD, said they were shocked when they received the order from management.

"The notice of suspension and termination was served to us without due notice," he told the INQUIRER, adding that it was "arbipension orders on Tuesday after- trary and a violation of their rights to peaceably assembly."

The group tried to report for work yesterday morning but was barred from entering the LMWD

Aside from Palencia, dismissed

ern Visayas, a militant organiza- were Owen Adona, Roberto Anotion composed of government ta, Benjamin Badilla, Armando Baino, Jorge Baino, Arsemo Ricky Palencia, Courage secre- Blente, Gonzalo Caidic, Reynaldo Deveras, Efren Francisco, Nilo Kintana, Angel Lacdao, Tomas Macapanas, Daryl Makabenta, Rolando Mercado, Alfonso Modesto, Virgilio Pelino, Gerardo Perez, Rodrigo Quimbo, Jorge Rosel, Ruel Sorila, Jovito Susaya, Fauto Teraza and Reynaldo

> Antonio Mercado and Reynaldo Silao were suspended after the 11-man committee that conducted the investigation gave weight to their claim that they just joined the group and did not even know

what the rally was all about.

LMWD legal consultant, said their suspension may range from management, an allegation one to sor months, depending on which he strongly denied Ranulfo Feuciano

The order stemmed from the rally staged by some militant groups in Tacloban on Feb. 5 at the LMWD main office on Mabini Street here, questioning the plan of LMWD to increase its water the position of the employee. rates by 10 percent.

The adjustment was implemented in June, which affected the LMWD's more than 25,000 concessionaires covering the towns of Palo, Tanauan, Dagami, Pastrana, Tanauan and this city.

During the rally, the protesters Lawyer Vicente Opinion, also demanded the ouster of Feliciano whom they accused of mis-

> But Palencia told the INC that they joined the rally to demand the release of their uniform allowance, which had not been released since 2001

The allowance ranges from P3,000 to P4,000, depending on "

But LMWD assistant manager Eulatio Maderazo said the decision against 28 employees was not done in haste because a committee was formed to study what particular action be meted on

Execs hit delay in taxes by

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Viz; caya-Local officials lamented the delay in the payment of taxes. and other fees by the operator of: the Casecnan Multi-Purpose Irrigation and Power Project in Alfonso Castañeda town.

Lawyer Epifanio Galima Sr., provincial legal consultant, said communities that host the CMIPP have yet to receive returns from the project, three years after its completion in 2001.

Legal questions have since prevented the provincial government, the Alfonso Castafieda government and local villages to receive payment as host communities of the CMIPP in the form of national wealth share, and real property, franchise and business taxes, Galuma said.

"It's quite sad because we are now faced with these obstacles. Within that time (three years), many people could have benefited if only these (fees) were paid religiously," he said.

The CMIPP is a P400-million power and irrigation project of the American firm California Energy (CE)-Casecnan, which was built through a 25-year build-operate-transfer deal with the government in 1995

It was intended to provide irrigation to 50,000 hectares of ricelands in Central Luzon, and to generate 140 megawatts of electricity for the Luzon energy grid.

The entire structure consists of two water impounding weirs in Barangay Pelaway in Alfonso Castañeda, which divert water flow from the Casecnan and Taan rivers through a 26-km tunnel across the Nueva Vizcaya-Nueva Ecisa border, and to the power plant in Barangay Villarica in Pantabangan, Nueva Ecija.

According to Galima, the province's claim for the collection of the national wealth share remained unresolved, with a case pending before the regional trial court here.

The provincial government has asked the court to declare the province as a host community citing provisions of the Local Government Code and the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (Epura) of 2000.

Gov. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma said she was optimistic that once the legal assues were resolved, CE-Casecnan would pay its obligations, citing the recent pledge made by Raymund Cunningham, CE Casecnan general manager. Melvin Gascon, PDI Northern Luson Bureau



PHILIPINE INTERNATIONAL TRADING CORPORATION

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY

The Philippine international Trading Corporation (PITC) invites interested parties to apply for eligibility and submit proposal for the following

NATIONWIDE MARKETING & DISTRIBUTION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS

Applicants must meet all the following qualifications Licensed 9FAD Drug importer and Drug Distributor

documents in a seated envelope addressed to.

(PDE-Det. 17 & 24, 2094)

Extensive experience in the pharmaceutical industry (mullinational & local companies.

With at least three years experience in nationwide multinational and local pharmaceutical distribution.

With existing distribution network/centers nettonwide Capable of managing/expanding retail outlets nationwide

Computerized Invoicing/Warehousing/Inventory management

With Marketing/Advertising capabilities

Sound training modules (pharmacists, healthcare assistants, Eligibility forms shall be available and may be secured from October 18

 4th Ploor, NDC Building 116 Tordesitias St., Salcedo Village, Makati City upon payment of a non-refundable ise of P500.00. Interested parties shall aubmit on or before 3:00 PM October 29, 2004 their Letter of Intent, Proposal, Eligibility forms together with required

to October 28, 2004 at the PITC BAC Secretariat cro Ms. Helen R. Muncal

NATIONWIDE MARKETING & DISTRIBUTION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS CO PITC BIDS & AWARDS COMMITTEE 4th Floor NDC Building 118 Tordesilles St. Salcedo Village, Maketi City

Eligible parties shall be required to make a brief presentation to PITC on their capabilities and proposal

PITC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS WITHOUT OFFERING ANY REASON, WAIVE ANY REQUIRED FORMALITIES IN THE OFFERS RECEIVED AND MAKE AN AWARD TO THE PARTY WHOSE PROPOSAL IS MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO PITC

(Bgd.) MARLENE R. LOPEZ BAC CHAIR

Republic of the Phillippines Province of Zambates Municipality of Stal Cruz

OFFICE OF THE BAC CHAIRMAIN Succeed Agracian Reform Communities Development Project (ARCDF II)

INVITATION TO RE-BID October 17, 2004

World Seni/IBRO Loan No. 7152-PH

The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from Informational Bank for Reconstruction and Development towards the cost of the ARCOPI) and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the following contract located at Barangay Tubo-Tubo North, Municipality of Sta. Cruz, Province of Zambales. The Bidding is open to all bidders from sigible source countries as define in the Guideline Procurement under IBRO Loan and IDA Credits

The Municipality of Sta. Cruz, Province of Zambates and implementing partner of DAR for ARCDPII invites scaled bids from eligible bidders for the Rehabilitation of 2,096 kms. Kusta ni Bandong Road under Contract No. RIRR 04 016 01 ESC-Z Project Duration

Bidding Documents Minimum Bid Security **Bid Closing Date** Description of Works

120 Calendar Days PHP 5,000.00 PhP 38,000,00 November 18, 2004 Time 10:00 A.M.

| Itam No. | Scope of Works | Quantity | Unit |
|----------|------------------------------------|-----------|-------|
| 10 | Cleaning and Grubbling • | 12,588 00 | ed w |
| 12 | Roadway & Drainage Excevation | 817.00 | cu m |
| 54 | Embankment for Roadway | 2 513.00 | cu m. |
| 20 | Aggregate Sub-base Course | 1.250 DO | cu m. |
| 21 | Aggregate Base Course | 1,250 00 | CU M |
| 60 (3) | Installation of 800 mm, dia. RCPC | 32 00 | In m |
| 80 (4) | Installation of 900 mm. dis RCPC | 5.00 | In m |
| 50 (5) | Installation of 1,200 mm dis. RCPC | 18 00 | In m |
| E4 | Grouted Rincen | 140.00 | CL IT |

Minimum Equipments Registred

Buildozer (1 unit)-owned. Road Roller Vibratory Compactor (9 ion min. 5 unit)-owned; Road Grader (1 unit)-owned; coader (1 unit)-owned, Dump Truck (4 units)-owned; Backhoe (1 unit)-owned or lease. Water truck (1 unit)-owned; survey instruments-

A complete set of bidding documents maybe purchase by the interested bidders at the BAC Secretaries Office of the Municipality of Sta Cruz, Province of Zambatos starting October 19, 2004 from 8:30 A.M., In 6:00 P.M. upon payment of a non-refundable like of PhP 5 000 00 for each set. Pre-bid conference will be hald in the same address on Dotober 25, 2004 at 10:00 A.M.

Bid shall be valid for a paried of 00 days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by a security deposit of Php 39,000.00 in form, Cash, Certified Check, Manager's Check, Bank Guarantee on a free conventible currency, and shall be delivered to the BAC Secretarial Office, Municipality of Sta. Cruz. Province of Zembales, on or before the Bid closing date on November 18, 2004. at 10:00 A.M., at which time the Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidden

The LGU-BAC ARCOPII of Size Cruz, Zambales reserves the right reject any or all tyde, waive any dialact for formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate indemnity to the contractor/bidder for any expenses that they may incur in the preparation of bid and to accept the lowest evaluated, responsive and

JPDI - Det. 17, 2004

(\$gd.) ENGR. DEKNIS B. MARY Chairman, LGL BAC-ARCOPH

Republic of the Philippines Province of San Andres Municipality of Quezon DEFICE OF THE BAC CHAIRMAN



ed Agrerien Reform Communities Development Project (ABCDP II) INVITATION TO RE-BID

October 17 2004 World BaniviBRD Loan No. 7182-PH

The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from International Sank for Reconstruction and Development towards the cost of the ARCOPII and intends to spely part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the following contract located at the Barangoys Sempaloc, Santotan and Segares, Municipality of San Andrea, Province of Quezon. The Bidding is open to at biddens from eligible source countries as define in the Guideline, Procurement under IBRO Loan and IDA Cradits.

The Mantenatity of San Andrea, Province of Quezon and IDA Cradits. The Municipality of San Andres, Province of Quezon and Implementing pariner of DAR for ARCDPI invites scaled bids from eligible bidders for the Construction of the 6.730 kilomoters of Samplec – Santokan – Segaras Farm to Market Road under Contract Number RiRC 03 015 01 CAM-Q 315 Calendar Days PHP 1,500 00 PhP 260,006.08 Project Duration Bidding Documents Minimum Bid Security

| Bid Closing Cate Howards in 2004 (mile 18:00 fcm) | | | | |
|--|--|-----------|---------|--|
| Personal Programmes and Programmes a | | | | |
| Hum No. | Scope of Works | Quantity | Unit | |
| 10 | Clearing and Grubbing | 40,380 00 | | |
| 12 | Roadway & Orginage Excavation | 95 243 95 | Cu Mirs | |
| 13 | Structure Excevation | 304 32 | نتسدي | |
| 20 | Embankment from Roadway Esc | 13,558 80 | Co Mire | |
| 20 | Aggregate Sub-base Course | 4,038.00 | Cu Mis | |
| 21 | Appropate Base Course | 2,028 00 | Cu Mis | |
| 31 | Portland Cument Concrete | 7,400.00 | Sq Mus | |
| | Payament (3 500psi) | [| | |
| 50 | Underdrains (RCPC) including Readwalls | \$4.00 | La Mire | |
| | a) 610 mm dia 26 pcs | 1 | | |
| | b) 900 mm dig 64 pcs | | | |
| | c) 1,200 mm dia Il pcs | | | |
| 43 | Reinforcing Stoel | 13,480 00 | Kge | |
| 44 | Structural Concrete Class A | 190 10 | Cu Mirs | |
| | | | | |

Grouted Riprap (slope protection) Minimum Equ. pmonts Required

Buildozer (1 unit)-owned, Road Rollar Vibratory (9 ton min. 2 units)-owned; Road Crader (2 units)-owned, Concrete Transit Miser (2 units)-owned; I-Baggar Concrete Miser (2 units)-owned, Vibratory Plots Compactor (2 units)-owned, Vibratory Plots Compactor (2 units), Backing (1 unit)-owned or lease, Loader (1 unit)-owned, Dump Truck (4 units-owned, Water Truck (1 unit)-owned, Burysy Instrument-leased/owned

units-owned. Water Truck (1 omit)-owned, Burvey Instrument-leased/owned. A complete set of bidding decements maybe purchase by the interested bidders at the SAC Secretarial Office of the Municipality of San Andrea, Province of Crossos starting October 16, 2004 from 8:50 A.M. to 5:66 F.M. upon payment of a non-retundable (see of PNP 3:600 50 for each set Pre-bid conference will be held in the same address on November 2, 2864 at 10:86 A.M.

Bids shall be valid for a period of 60 days after Bid opening and wurst be accompanied by a socurity depart of Php 330,000 of in form. Cash. Continuo Check, Manager's Check, Bank Guarentes on a tree conventible currency, and shall be delivered to the BAC Secretarial Office of the Manager's Check, Province of Quezon, on or before the Bid closing date on November 18, 2004 at 19:08 A.M., it which time the Gids will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to started.

The LGU-BAC ARCOPN of Sun Andrea, Quezon reserves the right select any or all bids, waive any defect or formally, assume no obligation influiscover to compensate indemnity to the contractor/bidder for any expenses, that they may incur in the on of bid and to scrept the lowest evaluated, responsive and complying bid

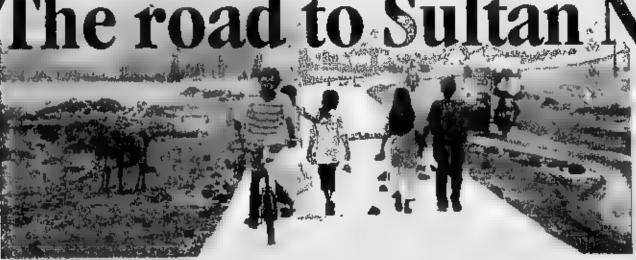
PDI - Distaber 17, 2064)

(Spd.) MR. RENATO P. FONTANIL Chamman, LGU BAC-ARCOPH

INQUIRERMindanao

Editor Jun Bandayrel Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

The road to Sultan Naga Dimaporo



-MILLION peso regional road network that will connect Zamboanga del Sur and Lanao del Sur provinces is RICHEL V. UNEUCONTRIBUTOR linking this quiet village faster to the mainstream of society.

By Ryan D. Rosauro Sultan Naga Dimaporo, Lanao del Norte

hanced socioeconomic integration in this part of Mindanao. The construction work involves a regional road network stretching some 22 kilometers from Sultan Gumander town in Lanao del Sur to Tukuran town in Zamboanga del Sur. Another 25 to 30-kilometer road that connects to Kapatagan town in Lanao dei Norte is also being rehabilitated.

Construction work had commenced for some months now with several kilometers of paved overlay aiready completed.

Amounting to some P500 million, the project funded by the Kuwaiti government is expected to provide a physical link between the economies of central, northern and western Mindanao regions. For travelers from northwestern Mindanao, the road adds an alternative land route to Cotabato City apart from the Narciso Ramos Highway from Marawi City.

At the center of this unfolding development is this relatively remote town of Sultan Naga Dimaporo in the southern tip of Lanao del Norte province, with practically the entire road network passing through it. Hence, as work on the road progresses, opening its isolated villages to the mainstream economy and society, socioeconomic modernization is descending on the town.

In the recent past, the way to Pikinit and outlying villages was a narrow strip of rugged dirt road that drowns in flood during the rainy season.

And although just near each other, the coastal villages could be reached best through a banca ride because the road is in very bad shape, according to provincial administrator Jesus Tobio.

"Amid poor road conditions, transport of farm produce to the town center is primarily done on horseback," a farmer related as he prepared to go home in a bicycle, a mode of transport previously uncommon in his village.

Bella dela Cruz, municipal tourism officer, said that as the town emerges out of social and physical isolation, she hoped its tourism potentials would be discovered and developed as a strategy for local economic growth, on top of its marine nches, notably tutingen or yellow fin tuna.

She pointed to several kilometers of coastal stretch that features white sand beaches as potential for resort; and a host of sea cliffs idea. for diving like the one with an estimated depth of over a hundred feet. Of interest to local visitors presently is a beach in Pikalawag village.

Towards Suitan Gumander town some 15 kilometers southeast, travelers have to pass under "the tunner." It is a 30-meter long passage carved out of a boulder by controlled blasting to give way to large trucks hauling logs and farm products. It is a construction feat during the time it was built just after the Second World War.

Arready, there is increased flow of people and goods coming in and through town with some ten Tamaraw FX vans plying the route Kapatagan to Malabang in Lanao del Sur, reducing travel time by almost half Previously, individuals embarking on this trip had to take a 45-minute jeepney ride from Kapatagan going here then board an outrigger boat for a sea ride that takes almost two hours to Matabang.

Town native Allan Sanoria, an educator, said the negative perception by outsiders about the town is unfair and needs to be corrected.

He lamented that just because it is an isolated locality in Moroland should it be viewed as some sort of an American Wild West, "when in fact it is a sonetuary of understanding between Musiim and Christian inhabitants."

Mayor Motalib Dimaporo said he expected the road to also open the potential lair of armed outlaws, hence boosting law enforcement drive.

Apart from the road, another prominent mark of modernization are two cell sites towering above town, respectively owned by Globe Telecom and Smart Communications.

This is spawning the growth in number of individuals, especially youngsters brandishing mobile phones, their platform for linking to the rest of the country and the world

Locally known by its acronym SND, the town is composed of 37 barangays, 16 of which are coastal villages facing the wide open Illana Bay.

Created in 1953 as Karomatan town, it was renamed in 1992 in honor of the late Sultan Naga Dimaporo who once served as the town's chief executive.

ARGE trucks of army of construction workers rumble

■ along Pikinit village, breaking a mundane early morning scene characterized by an occasional flight and chirping of farm birds amid a vast green landscape of rice fields interspersed with coconut trees.

The workers are on their way to a road clearing site, the frontier of the future for en-

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 - by Weena Lim
 - Live Auction 4 PM
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- ➤ Trip for two to Boracay
- Karaoke session for 10 with Vina Morales
- Private movie party for 50 at myClnema
- ➤ Laptop

Give a BIG HAND to the following for giving VOLUNTEERISM a hand UP! Corporate Communications Network), (the kiddieparty.com, Themeworks, Mirant, First Gen, Asian Spirit, Boracay 357, True Value, Digital Exchange, The NBC Tent, Wave 89.1, Jam 88.3 and Joey 92.3.



MOBILE phone service became available to the town just two months ago, providing a link for the remote and isolated locality in the southern tip of Lanao dei Norte province to the world MICHELY LINEUCONTRIBUTOR

SAN FERNANDO TRAGEDY

4 execs face raps for deadly fire

reau of Fire Protection officials have been recommended for suspension following the Oct. 2 fire that killed eight workers of a supermarket

Semor Supt. Ruben Bearls, BFP Central Luzon director, confirmed to the INQUIRER on Friday the 90-day preventive suspension of Chief Insp. Johnny Caronan, former city fire marshal; SFO3 Danilo Rodriguez, former chief fire Inspector; SFO3 Jose Antonio Samson, who replaced Rodriguez, and SFO2 Renato David, chief fire investi-

Bearls said the BFP's task force formed to investigate the fire that gut-

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Four Bu- ted the Popong's Suerte Mart here made the recommendation pending the possible filing of administrative cases against the four.

According to him, the four BFP officials issued supermarket owners Marichu and Tony Choi a fire inspection certificate for their Feb. 6, 2004 business permit despite several violations of fire safety standards.

Bearis said the supermarket was last inspected in November 2003

Caronan and Rodriguez had been moved to other assignments and could not be reached for comment. David, who as chief fire inspector, signed a certification issued for the Chois' renova-Hon plan on April 4, 1997.

were violated, among these the construction of the fourth floor where the eight workers were trapped and burned to death, documents obtained by the INoutres showed.

also have a fire exit and an escape ladder. The windows, sealed by metal grills, were padlocked. In the plan, the owners specified "saiding glass window with aluminum frame."

David could not be reached for comment. Samson said he was surprised by the recommendation, saying he took over Rodriguez's post only in

Numerous specifications in the plan ment's business office claimed to have not retained a copy of the 2004 fire mspection certificate, The BFP claimed it lost its documents when the office was rebuilt last year.

An official at the city government's The lone room on this floor did not Business One-Stop-Shop (Boss) office confirmed that the certificate was among the documents that the Chois submitted. Former Mayor Reynaldo Aquino approved the couple's business

The accountability of higher BFP officials would be known when the city government announces the findings of its own investigating panel next week, Mayor Oscar Rodriguez said. Tonette Both the BFP and the city govern. Orejas, PDI Central Lusan Desk

'World foodless day' celebrated

BAGUIO CTTY-Instead of celebrating the World Food Day on Saturday, members of a women's group here commemorated what they called the "World Foodless Day."

They called it as such because food, they said, is becoming scarce as large-scale industries, like mining and logging operations, deprive people in the villages of their sources of food, according to Vernie Yocogan Diano, chair of the Innabuyog-

Gabriela here "Athough food coupons are needed to satisfy the people's hunger, President Macapagal-Arroyo should dig deeply into the root cause of the problem by reviewing the national policies that affect the livelihood of the

peopie," Diano said. She said despite the Cordiliera's neh resources, villagers in the region hardly benefit from their agricultural lands, minerals, rivers and forests because of mining operations, illegal logging

and dam construction. The Cordulera remains a major target of local and mu.nnational mining compames for the extraction of its rich mineral resources, mainly gold and copper, a state-ment of the Cordillera Peoples Alliance said

The Mines and Geosciences Bureau in the Cordillera is processing 64 applications for production sharing agreement (Apsa) covering 78,198 hectares; an application for financia, and/or technical assistance agreement (FIAA) covering 77,549 hectares; exploration permit applications. covering 277,630.14 hectares; and six industrial permit applications for 32,51 hectares.

Diano said the region's forests are also being depleted. Desires Calusa, PDI Northern Lucion Bureau

ROUNDUP

Ibanag dictionary

TUGLEGARAO CITY-The city government has tapped the ibanag Council for Culture and the Arts in putting together an lbanag dictionary for tourists, scholars and foreign investors. Mayor Randolph Ting said he has emisted the help



of banag experts to finish the project funded by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts. Ibanag is said to be the richest dialect in Cagayan -Valley. The project is expected to cost P500,000 -Estanisiao Galdaz, PDI Northern Luzon Buread

Night market pushed

BAGLIO CITY—Mayor Braulio Yarange wants to put up night markets here to help decongest the sidewalks of vendors and improve pedestrian trafficat daytime. Yaranon said a proposed night market could accommodate vandors displaced by Admintatrative Order No. 163, the law against illegal vendors and structures. Members of the city council supported Yaranon's proposal and said market hours should be held between 8 p.m. and midnight

Donna Dematiko, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Malaria outbreak

TUGUEGARAO CITY-The provincial health office has declared a malaria outbreak in the Cagayan towns of Sto. Niño, Baggao and guig Dr. Ramilo. Teguba, provincial health officer said at least two persons were reported to have died of malaria in Sto. Niño, while several residents in the other towns were afflicted with the disease. He added that the incidence of dengue fever in the province had gone. down by 60 percent compared to last year's figures. Estanisho Caldez, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

18 Vietnamese held

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY-At least 18 Vietnamese fishermen on board two fishing vassels were caught, some 6 nautical miles west of Palawan on Wednesday by the Philippine Coast Guard. The fishermen were brought to Puerto Princesa for inquest A case of poaching will be filed against them, a crime that can imprison violators for 2 to 4 years and impose a fine of \$100,000 per vessel. Joielle Tesaria, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Austerity measures

TAYABAS, Quezon-The Tayabas iccal government has postponed the public opening of the eco-park located in Barangay Pandakaki to abide by the government's austerity program, The P1.6-million five-hectare park, according to Tayabas Mayor

Severina Nadres, will have a visitor's building, material redemption facility, composting area, fishpoind and organte vegetable farming site. She said the composted

materials would serve as natural fertilizer to the organ-

ic farm. Delin Maiter Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

ECO-PARK

OPENING

3 held for illegal drugs

SINILOAN, Laguna-Police arrested three drug suspacts Oct. 7 for alleged violation of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, or the Anti-filegal Drugs Law, Siniloan police chief Supt. Remilo Bamba said police caught Jose Watson, 44, laborer, Andres Octia, 46, farmer and Ronald Calabita, 41, jobless, all residents of Barangay Padro Burgos, Sinitoan, in the act of using shabu. Police confiscated shabu paraphemalia. Romulo Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

3 killed in collision

COTABATO CITY-At least three people were killed while several others injured when two passenger leepneys collided in Tantangan, South Cotabato on Tuesday atternoon, authorities sald Wednesday. Killed on the spot was the driver of one of the Jeepneys, identified as Ruben Villegas of Koronadal City, and passengers Gino Cabrera of Catanduanes and Nasser Salama of Ampatuan, Maguindanao Police said the three were pinned to death. Jessie Aysola, the driver of the other reapney, said he was forced to take on the lane used by Villegas to avoid being bit by an overtaking cargo. Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanan Bureau

Fire razes 49 houses

BUTLAN CITY -- A fire triggered by a lighted carrdie razed about 49 houses and the municipal half of Dapa town on Slargao island Saturday afternoon. Senior insp. Mejamin Macaraig, Surigeo del Norte fire chief, said initial investigation. showed that the fire started in the house of a certain Joseph Camingue in Barangay Poblacion at around 12:30 p.m. Macareig said a lighted candle left by Camingue's children caused the flame, enguifing Camingue's wooden house and quickly spreading to the neighborhood. The fire also razed the municipa, half, which also houses the municipal circuit court.

Franklin Caliguid, PDI Mindanao Sursau

BORING RIDE

ARNOLD ALMACENFOLVISAYAS BURGAL

Payumo on leaving Subic: 'Another door opens . . . '

By Allan Macatuno PDI Central Luzon Desk

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT ZONE-Outgoing Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority Chair Felicito Payumo on Friday said he had no regrets in leaving the government agency he had served for six years.

"I have learned about letting go . , . When one door closes, another one opens I am happy about leaving because I know that I have found a family here in Subic," Payumo said during the thanksgiving party prepared for him by SBMA officials and employees on Friday, his last day in of-

President Macapagal-Arroyo has appointed Francisco Licuanan III former president of Avala Land Inc., as the new SBMA chair. The President also appointed Alfredo Antonio, former president of the Development Bank of the Philippines, as SBMA administrá-

A girl appears to be bored in a bus bound for Catician, Aklan from Iloilo. The trip takes six hours.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye recently said Antonio will serve as acting SBMA chair anti. Licuanan assumes office on Antomo, who vis.ted SBMA

and its surrounding communities on Oct 13, will assume office on Monday.

Zambales Rep. Maria Milagros Magsaysay and Olongapo City Vice Mayor Rolen Paulino com-



PAYUMO

mended Payumo for transforming this former American naval base into a "bustling investment hub" and for opening job oppor-

rounding Subic. "If there's one thing that I can

tunities to the communities sur-

be proud of, it is that we have formed a community here and not just a government structure," Payumo said. He added "And to you, my

family, I will be coming back very often but this time to enjoy Subicin a more lessurely manner, not that I have not enjoyed it but this time I will savor every moment of Payumo came close to crying

when his children, who are based abroad, made some surprise calis during the program and expressed their appreciation for the hard work and leadership of their

Govs, mayors back Gloria's tax measures

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By Jolene R. Bulambot PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY-A group of elected local chief executives and officials expressed their support to the administration's economic measures and urged the two chambers of Congress to expedite the passage of the eight revenue measures endorsed by the President.

Officials of the Union of Local Authorstes of the Philippines (Ulap) met on Thursday with President Macapagal-Arroyo at the Mala-

cañang in the South and discussed with her their collective stand on the matter.

Ulap is an umbrella organization of the leagues of governors, vice governors, provincial boards, municipal and city mayors and barangay officials.

Eastern Samar Gov. Ben Evardone, Ulap's spokesperson, yesterday told reporters that they would lobby before the two chambers of Congress to immediately hasten the approval of the economle measures endorsed by President Arroyo.

"Ulap believės unless there are mea-

sures adopted by the two houses in Congress, we will face very dire consequences of the delivery of the basic services to the people," Evardone yesterday said.

Dire consequences

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now turning their eyes on designs that capture the natural beauty of the shores, his and forests of Southeast Asia

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Evardone said their group is also spearheading a signature campaign starting from the provincial down to the municipal and barangay levels urging Congress to pass the economic measures proposed by the government.

He said Ulap commended the

President for her support to the Ulap's proposal nor to cut the Internal Revenue Ailotment of total government units.

Evardone said the President has already submitted a P151-billion budget to Congress that included an increase in the LGUs' IRA share.

Evardone clanfied that they did not support the President's tax measures in order to protect their IRA share. He stressed that the passage of the economic measures would not only benefit the LGU but the national government as well.

warranty of 30 years.

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Sur.gao del Norte Gov. Robert Lyndon Barbers, national vice president of U.ap, also said there was no need for them to protect their IRA since the share due to each LGU is provided in the Local Government Code.

Ulap also said that its officials and members are also expioning measures how to help the government

Evardone said they would pass resolutions making a commitment to use 20 percent of their IRA to support the 10-point agenda of the President.

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Heads of three police chiefs in Rizal roll in ongoing revamp







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By Luige A. del Puerto

THE POLICE leadership in Riza, has completed its first round of revemp this month, sacking three station chiefs for alleged incompetence.

"I can no longer tolerate their incompetence," declared Sr. Supt. Leocadio Santiago, provincial police chief.

Sannago relieved Supt. Jose Gill of the Binangonan Police, Senior Insp. Diosdado Martinez of the Teresa Police, and Chief Insp. Roque Edgardo Mendoza Paredes of the San Mateo Police.

officials—their apparent inability to solve crimes, particularly in arresting the spate of robberies targeting Asian utility vehicles and jeepneys, said Santiago.

Supt. Raymand Olquiano replaced Gill, Chief Insp. Patricia Pantaloen replaced Martinez, and Supt. Mario Lico replaced Paredes,

The changes took place during the last four weeks.

The chief of police in Taytay has also been relieved-but not for incompetence. Supt. Rodino Elfa is

currently in school. Supt. Jaime Piloneo has assumed his post.

Santiago wants another police chief sacked: Chief Insp. Miguel Paje of the Angono police.

"The mayor there has complanned to me about the crime in his town, So I toid him, Why not replace the police chief?" Sannago said over the phone.

But he does not want to One thread binds the three replace the police chief. That puts my office in a d.lemma," the police official added.

> Local executives hold considerable clout over the choice of the police chief In many instances, good relations with town or city officiais prove crucial in getting logistical support, such as cars and gasoline allowances for the police.

The mayor's support is badly needed to augment the

budget of the police

Santiago said he was ultirmately responsible for the failure of his police officers. since he was their comman-s.

"The problem with local executives not wanting to replace incompetent police chiefs is that I cannot bring this argument to the PNP leadersh p. The (PNP) hierarchy does not accept this kind of argument," Santiago said. "Since it is my area, it is my respons bility and there is no excuse for it.

The Rizal police chief said . he was still hoping to convince Angono Mayor Gerry Calderon to let go of Paje.

Paje said over the phone that it was all up to Sant.ago, his direct supervisor, whether he stayed or went

He admitted that the mayor wanted him to stay as town police director. But the decision is out of his hands.

"I will simply follow whatever order is given. I just do my job," he said

A CASE OF ARSON?

Fire hits raided shabu laboratory in Parañaque City

By Nancy C. Carvajal

CHEMICALS used in the manufacture of shabu were reportedly burned when fire of still unknown origin hit an alleged illegal drugs laboratory inside the Multinational Village in Parañaque City yesterday morning.

Fire investigator SFO2 Teodorico Gatchal an, officer on case, said they were still investigating the cause of the fire that hit the stockroom of the alleged drug laboratory on Nazareth Street at about spared. 5 30 a.m.

However, Paramaque City Mayor Florencio Bernabe said he received information that the blaze was caused by a fire bomb.

"Sabi sa akin mototov bomb daw iyon galing sa tabas ng bahay (I was told it was a

thrown from outside the house)," Bernabe told the In-OURRER.

He refused to say where he got the information.

When asked about the information that reached the mayor, Gatchalian said the incident "was still under investigation."

The blaze destroyed the stockroom that stood separately at the right side of the three-story house. The 1,800

An undeterm ned amount of solvents used in making the illegal drug was reportedly stored inside the warehouse when it went up in

Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency raied the house and

molotov bomb that was found 13 kilos of ephedrine, 46 boxes of thionyl chloride and 634 boxes of various solvents. Al, are raw materials for manufacturing shabu.

At the time of the blaze, only a certain Airforce corporal detailed at PDEA, Emil Amihan, and Tam Bentt, reportedly a PDEA informant, were at the house keeping watch.

Gatchalian said that it was the residents of the village who alerted them of the fire.

He said severat residents aw people climbing out of the compound when the fire erupted.

It was the third drug laboratory raided inside the subdivision. It was the b.ggest.

A Chinese national Ll Last Tuesday, agents of the Zhong Hong alias James Nian, was arrested by police during the raid.

WPD prepares for All Souls Day

By Leila B. Salaverria

WITH TWO weeks to go before people troop to the cemeteries for All Souls' Day, the Western Police District has started preparations to ensure that the forthcoming holidays will

be orderly and peaceful. The assignments of policemen to specific areas during the hondays are being mapped out, as well as the removal of road obstructions to ensure that traffic on the said days would be flowing as smoothly as possible, said Western Police District director Chief Supt. Pedro Bulaong.

He also said the police already began coordinating with barangay officials to lamps in roads leading to cemeteries in Manila.

Defective street lights will be replaced so that criminals will not be able to take advantage of the dark to victimize motorists and

cemetery-goers.

By Oct. 30, pouce assistance centers and public address systems will already be set up around cemeteries to help those who are lost and confused, the WPD chief said.

And as early as two weeks before Nov. 1, Bulaong said the police would begin rounding up derestors living inside Manila's four cemeteries to maintain peace and order in the said areas.

Yesterday, over 70 men inside the North Cemetery were rounded up for questioning by Sta Cruz police. station members headed by Supt, Romulo Sapitula.

According to Sapituia, who was interviewed over dzMM, at least one of the check for busted street men was confirmed wanted for homicide. The suspect had a warrant for his arrest.

The police would also check if suspected jeepney rophers were also among those rounded up in yester-

day's drive.

DPS homecoming

School graduates from 1969-2004 are invited to the launching of the DPS Alumni Association on Nov. 27 at the school gym.

It will coincide with the ni@yahoo.com.

ALL DILIMAN Preparatory commemoration school's 35th anniversary.

For inquiries, call Rina Yap (951-9403) or Melina Sandoval (0918-9228469) or email us at dos alum-

Las Piñas eyes water stations

TAKING notice of the increasing number of water refilling stations in Las Piñas City, Mayor Imeida Aguilar ordered close monitoring and evaluation of such shops to make sure the water they are set. ing are safe.

At the same time, Aguilar warned the owners and operators of water reflaing stations that they faced stiff sanctions and penalties should they be found selling bottled water unsafe for drinking.

Aguilar directed the city heaith and business permit and licensing offices to conduct a roundup inspection, classification and rating of water refilling stations in

Only safe and pure water

She said the move was aimed at ensuring that city residents get safe and purified drinking water from the filling stations.

Agusar pointed out that classifi cation of water retailers will force its owners and operators to comply with the prescribed standards.

"In this time of crisis, mahirap ! magkasakit. Let us make sure that the water we buy and drank are safe," she said.

Section 10 of the PD 856 or Water Supply and Santtation Code mandates local health authorines to inspect and evaluate

all water refilling stations to, make sure the water that they sell meet safety stondards.

Text us your feedbacks inquirer met name/city/message to 2297 (Globs) or 283 (Smart)

Gas-saving invention comes to the rescue of 3 cities

Police say crime rate fell in Sept.

By Lella B. Salaverria

THE NATIONAL Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) has reported a drop in crime volume for the month of September compared with the same period last year

The most notable of the decreases in crime volume concerned non-index crimes, or those that have no direct victim, with 615 incidents reported last month compared with 936 reported during the same time last year.

There were also drops in the incidence of homicide, theft, robbery, physical injuries and rape, although the number of reported murder cases slightly increased.

Homicide cases fell to 26 from 44 reported in September last уеат.

Theft cases decreased from 414 last year to 365 this year. Robbery cases also dropped down to 257 from 277.

Physical injury cases also experienced a slight downturn, with 185 reported incidents this year compared with 199 reported cases last year.

Rape cases had a decrease, from 28 reported incidents last year to 26 cases this year.

The number of murder cases, however, slightly increased. This year, it went up to 48 from 45 reported incidents last year.

Overall, the total crime volume last September was 1,522. The total volume for the same period last year stood at 1,943.

Pasig has healthiest hospital

IT CANNOT give what it does not have

So, the Pasig City General Hospital (PCGH) had to be a place of health to be able to provide health. And its efforts paid off.

Recently, the Department of Health named the PCGH as the Most Outstanding Healthy Hospital in Metro Manila during rites at the 2nd Phiappine Health Promotion Program held at the Heritage Hotel.

The city-owned and operated hospital founded by Mayor Vicente P Eusebio has a 100-bed capacity and boasts of modern medical equipment, intensive care facility, operating rooms and specialized care units

PCGH has been serving the health needs of the city for close to a decade.

According to Eusebio, providing the best health care possible to Pasigueños is a top priority of his administration.

Apart from the hospital, the city government extends welfare in the baranggay level through weekly free health checkups called Lingap sa Kalusugan.

Currently under construction is PCGH's six-story, 300-bed capacity extension building.

crunch, the mayors of three leading cities are turning to a Filipino gas-saving invention to cut down on their gasoline expenditures.

Isko Catibayan, vice president and spokesperson of Inventionhaus international, identified these as Quezon City Mayor Sonny Belmonte, Manila Mayor Lito Atlenza and Puerto Princesa Mayor Edward Hagedorn.

For starters, Belmonte has decided to have the gas-saving devehicles in response to the gov- cles in the city would have it, it agencies, aside from the Depart-

FACED with a looming budget ernment's austerity call, Catibayan said.

Catibayan said Belmonte had confirmed to him that the Khaos Super Turbo Charger (KSTC) would be installed in all the red-plate vehicles of City

"Burnilib si Mayor SB. Sabi niya kung makakabitan ang lahat ng government vehicles ng Kyusi ay tiyak na malaking tulong ito para sa pagtitipid ng gasoline (The mayor was impressed. He vice fitted to Quezon City's 800 said that if all government vehi-

would result in big savings)," ment of Environment and Natu-Catibayan said.

Initially, the QC government scheduled 20 vehicles for the first batch even as the mayor called on the motorpool section to recall all other cars for the installation of the gas-saving device.

During the testing of the gadget, the QC-General Services Office (GSO) was surprised by the performance of the KSTC of Pablo Planas, a former driver and auto mechanic.

The QC-GSO was among the

ral Resources (DENR) and Department of Energy (DoE), to give a thumbs-up sign on the Filipino invention.

A certificate signed by Engt. Rolando Bola, Special Operations Officer IV of the QC Motorpool Section shows that the testing result on a Suzuki Bravo Multicab was convincing.

Planas, who personally supervised his men in fitting the gadget to the QC-owned vehicle, filled in one and a half bters of gasoline to the Suzuki Bravo

Multicab and let it run for aboutsix kilometers.

The OC personnel supervised. when it turned out that only 30% of fuel was consumed for the short drive.

Planas said that the longer the. trip would be, the more gas you; save with KSTC.

Also impressed, Bola decided to have the gadget fitted in his

Inventionhaus, located at the' second floor of President Tower on Timog Avenue, Quezon City, manufactures the device.

Frogmen risk all to save lives

By Leila B. Salaverria

THESE men brave the dangers turking in the deep, and often stare death in the eye.

They work in conditions of extreme heat and freezing cold, unmindful of stinging salt water, and even the stink of sewers.

They will plunge into the waters without besitation to save

They are the Philippine Coast Guard's frontliners—the everyday heroes of the Special Operations Group (SOG) who lead search and rescue and retrieval missions involving tragic water accidents in the country.

Master Chief Mauro Angeles, 53, leads this elite group of specialists, also called frogmen, that is the PCG's equivalent of the Navy's Special Warfare Group.

Behind the scenes

Since 1992, Angeles has been quietly working behind the scenes of every sea tragedy in the country, searching for and rescuing survivors, remeving bodies, luggage and other items that could provide clues for subsequent investigations, or serve as mementos to relatives and sur-

Ultery wor for the meak

But even if he has retrieved countless bodies from sunken or huming ships, downed airplanes or crammed sewers, Angeles confessed that he was still touched by each new experience.

not your relative, you are always affected," he told the Inquirent. "That is why you need to be strong, not only physically, but you should be able to get a hold of your emotions as well."

Angeles recalled that he shed tears when he retrieved an 8year-old boy from the wreck of the Lacag International Airlines plane that crashed into Manila Bay in November 2002, killing 19

A kick of hope

He performed CPR (cardiopulmunary resuscitation) on the boy in the hope of reviving him, and his legs would kick every time his chest was pumped and air was breathed into him, giving hope to the rescuer.

"I thought I would be able to revive the boy," he said after unsuccessful efforts to pump air into the frail body. When he realized the boy was gone, the tears fell.

But he had to wipe them away soon, because there was a job that had to be done.

Of all the missions Angeles worked on, he said the most memorable was that of SuperFerry 14 early this year.

One hundred eleven persons are still unaccounted for after a terrorist bomb caused the ship to burn on Feb. 27

Man's mortality

During retrieval operations, with a sea of burned and decomposing bodies before him, Angeles said he was remunded of man's mortality.

"Every time I remember that rescue mission, I realize that no matter how rich or bow brilliant you are, in the end, you are nothing if a tragedy like that strikes you," he said.

But the SuperPerry 14 incident was also memorable in other ways. The physical hardships that the SOG teams had to endure during the retrieval of the bodies were unparalleled, he said.

After the 10,000-ton ship caught fire while on its way to Bacolod, it was towed to Mariveles, Bataan, where it rested on its

Because of the ship's position, It is not an easy task, and defi- the SOG men who entered the ship had to work in surroundings skewed at a 90-degree angle.

The deck where most of the hodies were located was six stories below them, and the SOG team had to rappel down the entire length with nothing under-"Even if the person you save is neath to catch them but twisted slabs of metal and charred furni-

Recovered bodies

When a body was retrieved, the divers had to take extra care to strap the remains in stretchers or to place these in body bags as they were hoisted to the surface.

We took care of the bodies and made sure these were not manhandled because they deserved nothing less," Angeles said.

And because the fire inside the ship took a long time to die, the SOG reams who entered the vessel had to contend with fumes, heat and ashes that filtered through their gas masks.

It was difficult and dangerous work. In fact, members of the Special Board of Marine Inquiry who were investigating the fire and who had visited the ship took note of the teams having been exposed to precarious working con-



respond to any incident that will require divers going into the deep.

hard, but they were armed with a little extra weapon: prayer.

"When we finished our work and all of us were safe, I thought, ang lakas ko kay Lord (the Lord watches over me)!" he said.

Given the kind of situations the SOG operatives work in, it is but natural that they possess skill, strength, extraordinary stamina and the right attitude.

Being accepted into the SOG is not easy, and the group is not called elite for no reason.

Surprisingly, Angeles said, knowing how to swim is not a major requirement. It can be learned.

Determination, discipline and the right attitude are what's important, he added.

Only males not older than 26 years old and not shorter than 5'4" are accepted for training. They must also be college graduates and should be physically fit.

But that is just the beginning. The demanding training program calls for jogging at high noon, swimming in cold waters, and learning to function and adapt to all kinds of weather and environment. They are also trained in explosives and ordnance handling,

Angeles said the work was handy equipment in the light of with the smell of decomposing terrorist threats.

They must be alert and be able to respond any time, 24 hours a "We can't tell the ship captains

or airplanes not to sink or crash at odd hours, which is why we have to be always prepared," Angeles

And sea-related accidents are not uncommon in an archipelago with more than 7,000 Islands, all under the PCG's care.

Three days of 'hell'

Among the tests trainees have to go through is three "hell days" during which they must not drop off to sleep while doing numerous physical challenges, and a three-mile swim that they must finish in three hours or less.

Physical fitness is paramount safety measures is important as well. All divers must faithfully follow the buddy-buddy system, for one, and observe the 12-hour rest between dives.

The hazards of diving, on the other hand, include hearing loss and diving sickness, which cause paralysis or erectile dysfunction. Divers must also learn to contend

bodies, which clings to the skin. Asked if divers could still de-

velop an appetite after hours of seeing and handling rotting bodies, Angeles said they had no choice but to eat to regain their strength.

Divers usually eat without utensils when at a dive site, but he said this is okay since they wear gloves while working.

SOG trainees also have a "hell". blast," where they are allowed toget drunk. The reason for this,said Angeles, is to get to know attrainee's real character, which surfaces when he is under the influence of liquoz.

The SOG chief said those who-love fights or become very troublesome when drunk were usuale. ly placed under observation tosee if their attitude would unin SOG work, but knowledge in prove or not worsen while work-

There are currently only 174 SOG operatives among they 3,500-strong PCG force, but they_are frontliners, said PCGspokesperson Lt. Armand Balilo,***

"When people think of the Coast Guard, they think of thedivers," Balilo said. "It's a good, thing they are everyday heroes.".

DAVITE HEVALM

Munting Paralso, a special ward at the LIP-PGH for children with cancer, receives donations from friends led by Lull Arroyo, the President's daughter, and beauty guru Ricky Reyes, accompanied by Australian Miss Earth pageant candidate Sheneville Dixon.

Water board acts to save ground waters

By Tima G. Santos

THE NATIONAL Water Resources Board (NWRB) would be making it harder for people to draw more of Metro Manila's ground water.

Moves by the board to restrict the extraction of ground water came after it noted a deterioration of water in

at least 13 areas in the metropolis. In a study, the NWRB identified the critical areas in Metro Manila with deteriorating water quality due to excessive ground-water extraction

through deep wells. These areas are Merville and Sun Valley Subdivisions in Parañaque; Catmon and Tangos in Malabon; Manresa, Apolonio Samson, Paltok, Mariblo and Baesa in Quezon City; Barangay 171 in Bagumbong and Barangay 173 in Soldier's Hills, both in Caloocan City: and Talon and Almanza Uno in Muntinlupa.

extraction would be carried out in these critical areas, according to NWRB executive director Ramon Alikpala, saying that the big number of wells extracting water from the grounds have seriously affected the allowable extraction rate or safe water yield.

Salty and contaminated

He explained that they noted infrom near surface formations in the identified critical areas.

Alikpala added that over-extraction would also result in irreversible damage to underground reservous.

Aside from affecting water quality, Alikpala also said that over extraction also causes land subsidence, particularly in coastal areas like Parañaque.

With this critical situation, Allkpala said the NWRB would no longer grant

Tough measures on ground-water new extraction permits in areas where water levels are below zero elevation or where there is hardly any water yield.

Furthermore, water permits for the critical areas that are connected to Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) are automatically revoked.

For vital sectors like hospitals and medial laboratories, their extraction creased salinity and contamination rate would be reduced and they would be charged with higher water extraction fees.

The validity of the water permits to those without MWSS connection would be revoked once MWSS water service becomes available.

For noncritical areas in Metro Manila that are not connected with the MWSS, the NWRB would process

permits only for backup purposes. For those not connected, NWRB would allow processing of permits.

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the World Series continues in the Ni.

NBA Pre Season Games - Rockets vs Kings; 12 noon (r-10 p.m.), Solar Sports - Houston and Sacramento langlaim Beljing. BASEBALL, MLB National Leagus Championship So-

ries - 7:30 a.m. (r- 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.); ESPN - The race for

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2004

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Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

Deport Taulava, 5 others-DOJ

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE DEPARTMENT of Justice has concluded that six of the eight so-called Fil-shams, including Talk 'N Text's Asi Taulava, faked their citizenship papers to be able to play in the Philippine Basketball Association and should be deported.

A top-ranking DOJ official told the ln-

ournet yesterday that only Andy Seigle of Barangay Ginebra and San Miguel Beer's Dorian Peña were able to prove their Filipino citizenship.

The source said that the DOJ would issue tomorrow its 50-page ruling recommending the deportation of Taulava, Red Bull's Davonn Harp, Jon Ordonio and Mick Pennisi, Rudy Hatfield of Coca-Cola, and Alex Crisano of Barangay Ginebra.

DOJ Secretary Raul Gonzalez later confirmed the news in a TV interview.

"Definitely, their documents were not authentic. In fact, they were manufactured or falsified. These players will be deported or they might choose to leave voluntarily," the official said.

"Only the validity of Seigle and Peña's Flippno citizenship were upheld," he

The official said the DOJ concluded that Seigle is a Filipino after he was able to prove that his mother was a Filipino citizen. He said that Seigle's only fault was that he was not able to elect Filipino citizenship within three years after he reached his age of maturity.

"But we want to be liberal on this. We think the (oversight) was made in good



TAULAYA



Decision may affect SMB-Coke tiff today

By June Navarro

SAN MIGUEL Beer and Coca-Cola clash today on the eve of a decision from the Department of Justice recommending that six of the eight Fil-foreign players in the Gran Matador PBA

GAMES TODAY (Araneta Collseum) 4 p.m.-San Miguel Beer vs Coca-Cola 6:30 p.m.--Alaska vs FedEx Philippine Cup be deported for faking their citizenship papers.

The SMB-Coke game at 4 p.m. at the Araneta Colseum will somehow be af-

fected since the DOJ ruling clears Beerman Dorian Peña but penalizes Coca-Cola's Rudy Hatfield (See related story above)

Also getting the ax with Hatfield are Asi Taulava of Taik 'N Text, Red Bull's Davonn Harp, Mick Pennisi and Jon Ordonio and Alex Crisano of Barangay Ginebra.

Peña and Andy Seigle of Ginebra won't be deported, according to the DOJ, because they were able to prove their Filipino citizenship.

Based on an earlier hoard decision, the six

Based on an earlier board decision, the six players are automatically suspended as soon as the PBA receives the official DOJ ruling this coming week.

With the favorable ruling, Peña is expected to play inspired ball in partnership with Danny Ildefonso and Nic Belasco at the slot

The Tigers will try to stop them through Rafi Reavis and Gilbert Lao although the two 6-foot-7 centers will get help from Hatfield and Poch Junio.

Also equally interesting is the matchup between Johnny Abarrientos and Olsen Raceia at the point.

Gary David and Hatfield starred during the Tigers' 71-68 conquest of the Aces in Butuan City while the Beermen got another fabilities act from Bryan Gahol in scooting past the Barangay Ginebra Kings, 83-72, early this week.

The Aces are raring to bounce back after absorbing back-to-back heart-breakers. The Express are also determined to return to the victory trail after getting sideswiped by TNT last Wednesday.



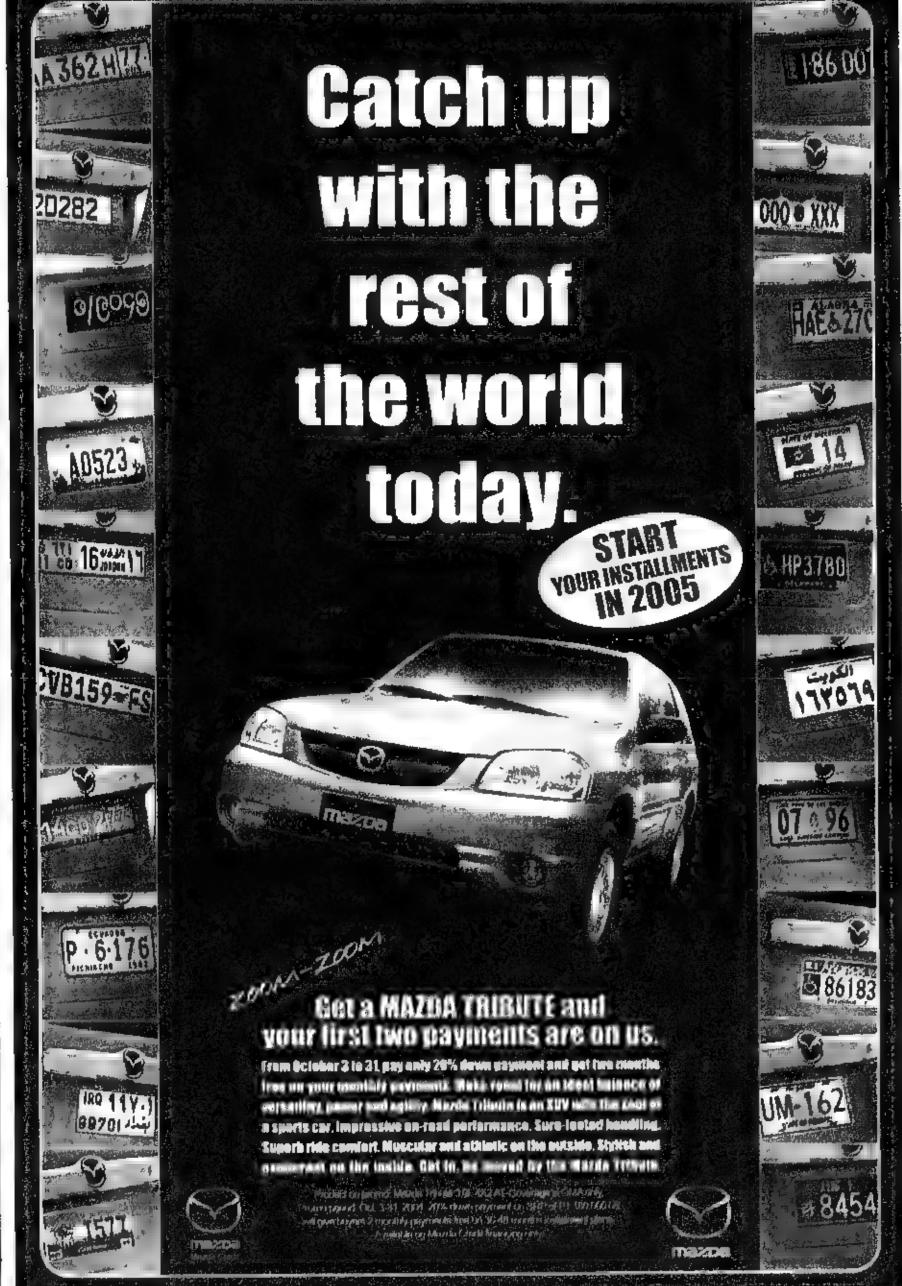


M Arcilla clinches
7th title for year /A29



■ Team RP routs Maita

/A26



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WAG-BABOY ARAW-ARAW

PWEDE IMANG

Sunday Sports Pampanga thwarts Ilocos Sur in URBL

SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga-Home team Harbour Centre-Pampanga scored a comefrom-behind 64-62 victory over the visiting flocos Sur Snipers, 64-62, yesterday to fortify its hold of second place in the United Regional Basketball League (URBL) First Conference at the Archbishop Cinense Gym of the University of the Assumption here.

VJ Santos, who scored nine of his 11 points in the fourth quarter, delivered the crucial baskets in the last two minutes to steer Harbour Centre-Pampanga to its third triumph in

The Ilocos Sur Snipers, in command in the early goings, fell to its third defeat in four

Following a 25-all count at the half, coach Mario Quitoriano turned to power forwards

STANDINGS M. Lhvillier-Cobu City Harbour Centre Quezon Coco Huskers Rocos Sur Snipers Lactovitaie-Gebu

(Linkwasky of the Assumption Dynt) 2 p.m. - Queson Coco Husters vs M. Lhuitler-Ceba City 4 p.m. — Harbour Centre ye Lactovitaie-Cebu

Francis Rauschmayer and Dondon Mendoza for the breakaway while pointguard Mike Manigo sank two triples, the last a 35-foot buzzer-beater that gave the Snipers its biggest lead, 48-38.

But Harbour Centre made sure it won't be

denied on its home turf as Billy Bansil and UA alumni Alex Bognot, Pet Duyag and VJ Santos provided the relentless defense.

Bansil scored on his patented one-handed shot to threaten at 61-62, with 1:40 remaining. After trading botched plays, Bognot rwiped the ball for an unmolested dunk to wrest the lead, 63-62, with 18 seconds to go.

Santos then uncorked the finishing touches. He pulled a steal off Manigo and quickly passed the ball to Bognet, who drew a quick foul and split his free throws for the final count.

The Pampanga-llocos Sur tussle will be televised over local Pampanga cable channel Infomax 8 from Oct. 20 to 25 at 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Infomax will also televise Harbour Centre's other home games.

Meanwhile, the URBL begins the second

half of the elimination phase with a doubleheader today at the UA campus.

The Quezon Coco Huskers, riding on the momentum of its inspuring 77-64 win over the Snipers last Monday, takes on the undefeated M. Lhuillier-Cebu City Jewelers in the 2 p.m.

Harbour Centre eyes a repeat over the Lactovitale-Cebu Province Probiotics in the main game at 4 p.m..

The Scores:

HARBOUR CENTRE 64-A Gardia 16, Santos 11, Ouyag 10, Bansil 16, Bognot 6, Yambao 4, Magpayo 4, J. Mendoza 1, Ruiz 0, Soils 0, Liangeo 0.

N.DCOS SUA 62 -- Manigo 13, Rauschmayer 9, Bernardo 9, Cardel 8, D. Mendoza 8, Yu 6, Barbosa 5, Butel 4, Hardin O. Torrenta O.

Quarters: 13-13, 25-25, 36-48, 64-62.

Ozamiz tops Tribu Sugbu, nears crown

THE OZAMIZ Cotta subdued topseeded Tribu Sugbu (Cebu Tribes), 93-87, Friday night in the opener of their NBC (National Basketball Conference) South division finals at the Gov. Angel Median Gym in Ozamiz City.

Mayor Reynaldo Parojinog's Ozamiz cagers led from start to finish as they spoiled the return of Cebu's main man, Jojo Tangkay, in the best-of-three se-

Game 2 will be played at 6 p.m. today at the Cebu Coliseum with Ozamiz needing only a victory to wrap up the South division crown of the tourney sponsored by Panasome, Spring Cooking Oil, PCSO, Sulpicio Lines, Nature's Spring Mineral Water, Cebu Perries, Air Philippines, Supercat, Skygo Motorcycles, TRans-Asia, Accel and Mizuno.

Ozamiz led by 10, 78-68, going into the final quarter, But the Skygo-backed Tribes of Lito Gillamac Jr., Albert Tan and Dr. Kelly Viado rallied behind the efforts of Ruben

dela Rosa, Dennis Concha and Chico Lanete to close in at 80-82.

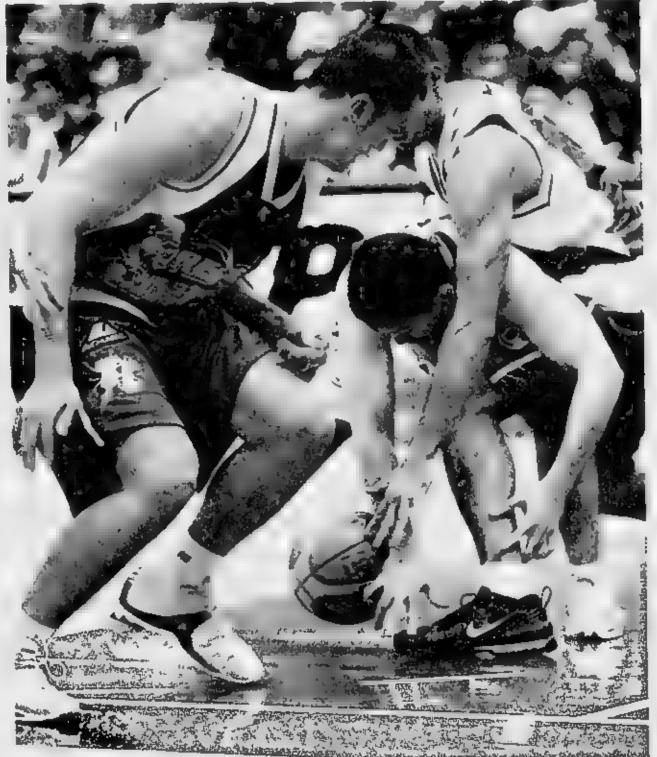
Ozamiz's star Egay Echavez doused cold water on the Cebuano's fierce rally by scoring five straight points.

"We're very much prepared against them," said an emotional Ozamiz coach Jun da Jose later. "This is a big win for us. I expect the boys to display the same kind of intensity in Game 2."

Echavez sizzled with 22 points, seven assists, two rebounds, three steals and one block to propel Ozamiz to its eighth straight victory since midway in the elimination round.

OZAMIZ 83-Echavez 22, Basco 15, Guerrero 10. Basilides 9, Aiminado 8, Rodriguez 7, Ferraren 7, Cabigkis 7, Cabrera 4, Samplio 3, Guiyab 0, Araman 0, Libatog

CEBU 87-Lanete 19, Grijaldo 11, Larong 11, Yangkay 10, Concha 9, Date Rosa B. Almacin 7, Bucao 6, Piodo 4, Marçado 2, Elim 0, Litanda 0, Sanders 0.



STA. LUCIA'S Kenneth Duremdes battles for the loose ball against Shell's Rich Alvarez and Ronald Tubid in their PBA game Friday. Shell won, 84-78. (Related story on A23)

Gee Abanilla likely to replace Pumaren

HE'S intimate with coach Franz Pumaren's winning system.

if Pumaren So, doesn't return, Gee Abanula should be next in line as coach of the multi-titled De La Salle Green Archers in the University Athletic Association of the Philip-

There's a growing clamor among La Salle alumni for continue Abanilla to Pumaren's coaching legacy that has netted the Archers five UAAP titles and six Final Four appearances in a seven-year

*Gee is very intumate with Pumaren's winning system. And with the team practically intact, any adjustments, if any under Abanilla, would be minimal," said Mike Gonzales, a loyalty medanst La Salle alumnus who gave the Archers the likes of Fil-Am players Alvin Castro, Willie Wilson, Mike Cortez and Mac Open Conference.



Gonzales, the group's spokesperson, said his sentiments were shared by staunch La Sailians like Manny Herbosa, Herman Jugo, Johnny Valdes and Clarito Ticzon.

Apart from Abanilla's seven-year partnership with Pumaren, they noted that Abanilla is "part and parcel of the La Salle family."

A La Sallian from grade school to college, the 38-year-old Abanilla was the court general who guided the Archers to back-toback titles in 1989-1990.

Abanilla's credentials include being the assistant coach of Franz's older brother Derick at Federal Express and Purefoods in the PBA, and being Franz's deputy with La Salle-ITCSI in the PBA.

More than anything else, however, Franz has himself handpicked Abantila as his successor if he decides to leave the Archers for good after this year's PBL

Canare leads lady keglers; Suarez trails Rivera by 134

DEFENDING ladies' champion Jojo out of the lead. Canare surged to a slim six-pin lead, but reigning World Cup champion CJ Suarez managed to rank only sixth at the start of the three-day national finals Thursday and Friday at the Starlanes along Edsa.

Canare, who took the bronze. medal in the international finals last year in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, rolled a 10-game series of 2032 to inch ahead of underrated Ellen Ramos, who carded 2026, and fe.low national bowlers frene Benitez (2017) and Liza del Rosario (1924).

But Sugrez had a roller-coaster game in the men's division, scoring 2434 in 12 games to finish 134 pins

Rockwell is it

Veteran Biboy Rivera carded 2568 to show the way, followed by Benny Dytoc, who shot a perfect 300 in the minth game, with 2551 and four-time World Cup titust Paeng Nepomuceno with 2519

Another strong favorite, Chester King, came in fourth at 2481, while Gene Tonolee was fifth, 44 pins ahead of Suarez.

Only 28 bowlers each in the men's and ladies' divisions remain in contention for the next round set on Monday, Oct. 18, at SM Megamall. With their scores carried over, these contenders play another 10 and 12 games to determine the top eight,

who will compete in head-to-head, best-of-three matches from the quarterfinas to the finals on Oct. 20 at Paeng's Entwood Bowi.

Dinah Basuel was fifth in the ladies' group with 1880, followed by Vilma Fabros (1824), Lovella Catalan (1790), Nenette Enriquez (1784), Apple Posadas (1782), Lorey Chan (1768), Flor Balaba (1766), Pinky Buenaflor (1761), Luz Manzano (1722), Meg Manalo (1710), Bianine Florencio (1698), Cecille Cuesta! (1697), Eden Caninos (1692), Fittpina Olona (1689), Jinggay Facuri i (1676), JOsie Meigarejo (1661), Annie Licarte (1661), Grace Roces (1656) and Tess Eusebio (1641).

MALLING has become sort of a sport, too. Not only here but also in many parts of the world. Yes, malling has ceased to be the exclusive

domein of First World countries. It's fast catching up with Third World countries. If you ask me, malling has become both First World and Third World property.

What is malling again?

Well, it's that discipline where you go to malis because your body needs to do it. Like today, Sunday, being usually the best time to go malling.

If you can't go malling, you feel sluggish. You have temper. Your mood swing is more pronounced than when you can't eat your favorite dish for one reason or another, or can't quaff your favorite poison because you're on medication. Poison a.k.a. drink.

The world was simpler then, Malling was

non-existent.

We watch a movie on a Sunday and that's it. Movies then could either be found at Avenida Rizal or Azcarraga. Escolta, too. They weren't found inside a huge building, though,



unlike today when large edifices usually house up to eight theaters.

From Manila, our weekend warrlors shifted to Cubao-at the Araneta Center, Next

Today, the façade has changed: Movie theaters are now inside a building that have

shops in it. Today, Metro Manila is teeming with movie houses located inside buildings-no, they aren't called buildings anymore. Malls they

are called. Thus, the word mailing is born.

Mails are all over Metro Manila now Eastwood, Podium, Greenbelt, Greenbills, Ever

sa/Megamall/Center Point/Pairvlew, etc. And, yes, Rockwell I've been to all of them. My favorite is Rock-

well in Makati, I don't know. I'm not rich. But I find Rockwell suited to my syano taste.

Not cramped. Not teeming with people.

Not computated. An atmosphere that is very relaxed.

um, that after sometime, you get famillarized with faces coming and going, both famous and not. Dolphy and Zsa Zsa. Tonyboy and Margie. Titosen and Helen, Boy Cantada and son Gerard. Etcetera, etcetera. Celebrities there are a dime a dozen. They mingle with ordinary folk, elbow-to-elbow, munching on Cinnabon chocopecan or chocobon, feasting

Rockwell's even like a big sain, an auditori-

joy of eating rice and dinuguan at Milky Way. After I had bought my first pair of Florsheim at Rockwell some years back (pikit-mata, eyes closed when I paid my bill), I knew I

on oysters at Via Mare, or rediscovering the

Gotesco, Robinsons, Giorietta, SM North Ed- wouldn't be looking for those shoes once I get . to travel to America again. In fact, I guess the : Plorsheim quality at Rockwell can match up l with those being peddled in America's mails.

And Rockwell's theaters, wowl For me, they are the best in the world, an observation shared by many, including Pareng Louie Fernandez. I admit I also go to Greenbelt's theaters, but only when a movie that I badly need

to see Isn't showing at Rockwell. Over at Rockwell, watching a movie is like being inside your own living room—only this time, your living room has been expanded tenfold, Sensurround and all.

And, yes, there's no parking system as efficlent as the one at Rockwell. Courteous, smiling ladies handing our parking tickets to mallers. Ample space for each vehicle—be it a

car, SUV or a truck. Aren't we told that malling, like any other sport, ought to make us mentally and physically fulfilled, satisfied, after we're done?

For me, Rockwell supplies all that.

The only one.





A SMART Load Retailer is the Second 1 Million Araw-Araw Papremyo Winner

This time last week, Cherrica Marbas, 33, of San Felipe Nueva Ecija, was having a pretty routine October. The single mother of 2 young boys, Einstein and Johnver, Cherrica went about her daily chores while providing for her children as a SMART Load retailer in her neighborhood. Being a SMART retailer, Cherrica was also aware of the newest and biggest promo of SMART. Everyday, SMART subscribers get the chance to become an instant millionaire through its "1M Araw-Araw Papremyo" promo. On top of that, SMART Buddy and Talk 'N Text subscribers earn 10% extra load every time they topup via Buddy Load or TnT Load, making everyone a winner!

When Chemica found out she had won 1 million pesos after having registered and joined the 1M Araw-Araw Papremyo promo, she was naturally dumbfounded. "Sorry talaga. Medyo tinarayan ko ang SMART rep na tumawag sa akin para lang sabihin nanalo ako", she explains with a shaky voice. "Kahit na publish 'yon, 'di pa rin ako makapaniwala na totoong nanalo ako" She is very close to crying with joy at this point. And for the icing on the cake, sales of her SMART Load retail outlet had greatly improved since the launch of the promo. In fact, Cherrica was so excited about the promo that she herself repeatedly topped-up her own celfone's load, which eventually lead to her winning the 1 million pesos.

Seeing is Believing!

Cherrica admits to being a veteran when it comes to dealing with scams since she, like millions of other Filipinos, has been on the receiving end of countiess dubious calls from parasitical con artists out to make a quick buck. "Totoo pala ang SMART*, she adds beaming, "Malaxing tulong talaga itong napanajunan ko. Gusto ko iexpand ang negosyo ko at siyempre mag-ingat sa pag gastos. Naisip ko rin magpatayo ng isang SMART Padaia Center." Even though she admits the feeling of winning big cannot be described with words, she keeps her feet planted firmly on the ground and doesn't allow herself to lose focus. "Bukas, iba na ang buhay ko pero ako pa rin ito", she humbly acknowledges.

And who can blame her? To be in with a chance to the next SMART 1M Araw-Araw Papremyo millionaire, all you need to do is register by simply texting MILYON_REG_<name>*<address>*

day>*<gender m or b on your SMART Buddy or Talk 'N Text celfone and send to 270. Registration is free and you then automatically earn raffle entries to the daily draws which gives you a chance to win 1 million pesos that can be used to start up your own SMART Padala Center/business. On top of that, SMART Buddy and Talk 'N Text subscribers earn 10% Extra Load instantly every time they top up via BuddyLoad or TriTLoad. So once you top-up, no need to wait days for the extra load-it's already loaded on the







iada Li



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CHESS OLYMPIAD

Team RP routs Malta

master-elect Master Mark Paragua needed only 19 moves to dispatch his opponent and trigger the Philipplnes' 4-0 rout of Malta in the opening round of the 36th Chess Olympiad.

GM Joey Antonio, playing the top board in lieu of fellow GM Eugene Torre, also prevailed as did Olympiad rookies IM Jayson Gonzales and NM Darwin Laylo.

Paragua, who will be conferred the GM title in the World Chess Congress late this month, disposed of David Cilia Vicenti with the white pieces, one of the quickest matches for the day.

opening," said the 20-year-old former chess prodigy who is coming off two major victories in Alushra, Ukraine.

champion, followed Paragua off the playing hall after defeating

Spain-Grand- Duncan Vella in 30 moves with the white pieces.

Handling black, Antonio and Gonzales took a little longer before winning their games.

An eight-time Olympian, Antonio displayed his mastery of the endgame against Colin Pace whom he beat after 40 moves of a Caro Kann while Gonzales forced Andrew Borg to lose by time forfeit after 42 moves.

Twenty-seven other nations achieved maximum result as the first round pits teams from the opposite ends of the form chart.

Second seed Ukraine threw the full weight of super GMs Vassily "He made a mistake in the Ivanchuk and Ruslan Ponomariov to devastate Indonesia, 4-0, while third-ranked Israel shut out Solith Africa.

Singapore, Bangladesh and Laylo, the reigning national Iran are among the Asian countries which swept their matches.

China, the Philippines' main ri-



PARAGUA

val in Asia, beat Paraguay, 3-1

There were few surprises. Lowly Iraq pulled off a 2-ali draw with Croatia while India and England posted hard earned 2.5-1.5 wins over Uruguay and Turkey, respectively.

Team captain Sammy Estimo cit-

for the Philippines' early success.

Torre and Emmanuel Senador, who did not see action, would again watch the games from the gallery following the team con-sensus to field the same lineup against Colombia Saturday.

The last time both teams met in Bled two years ago, the match ended in a 2-2 draw.

The Philippines was not as successful in the women's section, losing to Cuba, 0-5-1.5.

Rookie Loreshyl Cuison failed to capitalize on her middleg...ne advantage and lost to Women International Master Yaniet Marrero after 53 moves.

WIM Beverly Mendoza also dropped her first match against WGM Pina Sullenis.

Two-time national champion Sheerie Joy Lomibao averted a shutout when she held WGM Maritza Albbas to a draw. With a ed team chemistry and high morale report from Marlon Bernardino

Pacquiao-Delada tussle shapes up

Salven L. Lagumbay, Contributor

AN EXCITING undercard is shaping up in the mammoth Dec. 4 event in Taguig featuring featherweight king Manny Pacquiao.

If things go according to plans, Pacquiao's younger brother, Bob-by, would be defending his Philippine super featherweight crown against Cebu-based No. 2 contender Dexter Delada of the Wakee Salud Stable in the top supporting bout.

However, Delada needs to hurdle Ai Deliguer first on Oct. 23 in a 10-rounder underneath the Randy Suico-Ibrahim Aroby card in Lapu-Lapu City.

The younger Pacquiao, who is currently training at the Wild

trainer Preddie Roach, will be definitely tested by the oncebeaten Delada, who is trained by Cebu trainer Brix Flores at the Wakee Salud boxing gym.

Sources said the fight contracts are ready to be signed by the two boxers

Pacquiao (20-10-3, 9 KOs) left for the United States last month with his more illustrious brother and Cebu phenom Z Gorres following an important decision victory over Baby Lorona Jr in their fifth encounter.

Delada (8-1, 6 KOs) is coming off a decision win over Julius Tarona on June 27 immediately after his shock defeat at the hands of journeyman Nonoy Gonzales in April. which detailed an earlier plan Card Gym of world-renowned to pit him against Pacquiao.

Boxing at GC Mall

SOME of Cebu's top amateur special "pro-am" exhibition boxers will see action in a card bout marking Gassano Country Mail's 11th anniversary on Tuesday, Oct. 19.

multi-awarded Rey Cartom and the Banal brothers-Nic and Alex John.

The bemedalled Cartom goes up against upcoming Edmar Tunacao, Nicolas Banal will trade blows with probound Giegle Balataria while Alex Banal of Barangay Ermita will tangle with professional boxer Speedy Boy Garzo in a Del Casullo. Salven Lagumbay

The rest of the card oits George Cande of G&E Boxing Club against Rey Maglente of Seeing action in the card are Liloan, Leyte; Tagbilaran's Benjie Aceron against UV's Rey Manungo; Malaysian Melphine Isian against G&E's Brian "F4" Rizane; Pardo's Joyo Intor against Donewell's Jopk Mancao; Cabancalan NHS's Rasshied Bacus against Barili's Alvin Pugoy; Pitos NHS's Sherwin Oporto versus Anel Villamor, UV's Jelo Ruz against Cabancalan NHS's Raniel



A RIZAL High School (right) spiker puts one over a Diliman Preparatory School defender during the recent Greenwich Girls Volleyball Invitational Tournament at the Southville International School in Las Piñas City. Diliman prevalled, 25-18, 25-20, for its first win in two games.

Camp John Hay to host next Samsung Tour leg

Coseteng braces for tough fight

FRONTRUNNING Jody Coseteng of SMB Philippines, Norkis Yamaha, Kilton Motors

and MOF Company.

Bon is third with 87 points.

GOLFERS from the north will take the lead in early preparations for the Fil-Am. the chase for tickets to the national finals in the sixth eliminations stop of the popular Samsung Amateur Tour starting with the championship division on Tuesday (Oct. 19) at the Camp John Hay course in Baguio City.

A field of about 180 players will be aiming for the top awards not just in the 72-hole championship class but in the 36-hole battles in Class A, Class B, Class C and Class D of the men's division and Class A, Class B and Class C of the ladies category

The high-caliber Samsung Tour competitions fire off the year-end calendar of major events at Camp John Hay to be capped by the Fil-Am championships in early December.

A number of entries, according to head organizer Boy Blue Ocampo, are competing at John Hay this coming week not just for the many prizes up for grabs but also to start their

Strong Ice-Caltex Havoline tries to keep his

precarious lead against tough rivals Rey

Reyes and Dominic Bon as the 2004 PCSO

Grand Prix stages its penultimate leg this

weekend, Oct. 23-24, at the Batangas Racing

Coseteng, despite a mess up with Enzo Pas-

tor in the last race, kept his hold of the top in

the National Touring Car Championship with

91 points in this event sanctioned by the Au-

tomobile Association of the Philippines and

sponsored by Philippine Charity Sweepstakes

Office through Hon. Rosario Uriarte, Pilipinas

The course-hopping Samsung Tour is also sponsored by Tokyo Tokyo, C-Lium Fiber, Gatorade, Philippine Airlines, adidas Taylor Made, KZG by Custom Clubmakers, Pink Patio Boracay, Coppertone Sport, and Rogin-E. Killer-Bee, Jam 88.3, Wave 89.1, Magic 89.9, 99.5 RT and 103.5 K-Lite are media partners.

"It's the best time to play golf in Baguio and the course just couldn't have a better condition than what it has now," said Ocampo.

Ocampo also lauded the support of the Camo John Hay Dev't Co. and Fil-Estate through Camp John Hay golf manager Bong Vilchez who has been on top of the course preparations.

After this week's Bagulo leg, the last eliminations stop will be played at Cebu Country Club on Dec. 14-17. For inquiries, call the PSMG office at 635-00-10.

But Reyes and Bon both gained grounds to

pose as big threats to Coseteng's title defense

in this series also supported by Yokohama,

Standard Insurance, Macnell Architectural

netics Engine Dynamics, moved up second

overall just three points behind with 88 while

A similar incident or a costly error could

spell big pressure to Coseteng's bid for the

Driver of the Year award in the championship

Reyes, backed up by Tropical Ice and Mato-

Paints, NU 107, Dunkin' Donuts and Alaska.

Grace leads by 4; Jenny lies at 15th

PALM DESERT, California—Grace Park followed up her 10-under-par 62 with a five-under 67 Friday to seize a four-shot lead after two rounds of the \$850,000 Samsung World Championship.

The Philippines' Jennifer Rosales shot a 73 and was at 15th place with a 141 total, 12

"I feel I can birdie every hole on this course," Park said. "The way I'm striking balls ... the way I've been putting the last two weeks, as long as I kept giving myself chances, I could shoot another low num-

South Korea's Park had six birdies and a bogey to post a 36-hole total of 15-under 129 and lead 19 others in the elite field.

She won the Kraft Nabisco Championship six months ago and finished second at last week's Asahi Ryokuken International Cham-

England's Karen Stupples and South Korea's Shi-Hyun Ahn were tied for second at 11 under 133 as both fired seven-under 65 at the Canyons Course at the Bighorn Golf Club.

Stupoles, a two-time Tour winner this season at the Welch's-Fry's Championship and the Women's British Open, had a bogey-free round Friday. Stupples opened with four bogeys and eight birdies in a roller-conster first round.

Ahn had six birdies on the front nine for a 30, but could only add one more birdie on the

Sweden's Annika Sorenstam, Christie Kerr, Mexico's Lorena Ochoa and Scotland's Catriona Marthew--who was second entering Friday's round-all were five shots back at 10under 134.

Sorenstam eagled the par-five seventh, but bogeyed No. 18 for a four-under 68. She is looking for her sixth Tour victory of 2004.

"It seemed I was really not on the right side of the flag today," Sorenstam said.



MADRIGAL TRIUMPHS: Alessandra Madrigal, 8, of Team Alessandra-PCR proved her tag as the future learning superstar when she ruled the Cadot 60 class anew in the seventh leg of the 2004 PCSO-Shell Karting at the Kart Trak inside the Boom na Boom complex.

SPORTSWATCH

Fistorama features Lobo-Romulo tiff

SAMSBNG'S Fistorama today features two action-filled four-round bouts. Jonathan Lobo faces Michael Romulo in the super-flyweight division while Deriver Cuello squares off with Pit Anacaya in the minimum-weight category. The bouts were held recently at the Angono Municipal Gym in Angono, Rizal, Fistorama is alred weekly in the United States, Europe, Australia Japan, the Middle East and other parts of the world through ABS-CBN's Pingy Central TV. The show is alred at 2 p.m., Sundays, or RPN-9 and is sponsored by Samsung Electronics Philippines Corp., PCSO. Manecon and Tanduay Rhum. Golf Power, supported by Samsung, Tanduay, and iBank,



VILLAGE HOOPS: adidas Sports Kamp (aSK) president Arsenic Laurei led the ceremordal toss of the PLDT-myDSL Village Hoops at the adidas Sports Kamp basketball court, Bonifacio Global City in Taguig. Also present were deputy commissioner Bong Go and Talk 'N Text guard Wille Miller:

San Beda-Alabang, Miriam, RTU cop 2nd

HOST school San Beda College Alabang, Milriam College and Rizar Technological University salvaged second runner-up honors yesterday in the WNCAA 35th season basketball and volleyball tournament at the St. Schotastica's College gym. The winner-take-all championship games, meanwhile, begin today, with Lycsum of the Philippines defending its seniors volleyball crown against University of the Assumption-Pampanga at 11:30 a.m. while taking on defending champion College of St. Benikle in seniors baskethall at 2:30 p.m. The SBCA Lions turned back newcomer La Salla College Antipolo, 25-18, 25-14, 15-25, 25-19, In juniors volleyball. RTU leaned on the game-high 21 markers of Karen Blancation to overlurn Centro Escotar University, 63-48, and retain third place in seniors basketball. Sibaya Sadorra scored 25 points to help Mirlam land third place in the juniors division with a 58-50 win over SBCA.

Deport Taulava

prove that one of his parents was also a Filipino and that his roots were from Sagay, Negros Occidental.

" Pena's filiation was established. There are many Peñas in Sagay" the official said.

The source said the DOJ decided to include Taulava in its ruling despire an injunction from the Manila Regional Trial Court that was supposed to stop it from looking into the

"We cannot allow an injunction to make an alien a Filipino. If that happens, then other aliens would just get an injunction from the courts," the official said.

He said the DOJ has asked Solicitor General Alfredo Berupayo to ask the Manila RTC to lift the injunction.

Meanwhile, PBA chair Buddy Encamado and commissioner Noli Exia reperated the decision of the Board of Governors to respect and abide by the decision of the DOJ on the questioned players.

"As a group, regardless of our position, we must recognize the authority of the DOJ. If it's already offi-

cial, there's no other choice but to follow it as agreed upon by the board," said Encamado.

In an emergency meeting last month, the PBA board agreed to immechately suspend the Fil-foreign players who will be recommended by the DOJ for deportation.

"The players can appeal but based on the board's ruling, they will be automatically suspended as soon as we get the official communication from the DOJ," said Encarnado.

Fala shared Encarnado's insights on the board's resolution on the DOJ

We want to get the official copy first before making a statement. But as far as the PRA is concerned, our position is final. We will follow the DOJ decision and implement it," said Easa.

The Senate Committee on Games, Assusement and Sports had earlier ordered the Bureau of Immigration in August last year to deport Taulava and the others for allegedly falding their citizenship. With a report from June Navarro

Shell Petroleum Corporation, Toyota Motors San Andres shares Supercross spotlight



Kenneth San Andres snared a dazzhng victory in the Novice Open to share the spotlight in the Camel Supercross Championships at the race track near the Gaisano Mall in Bacolod City re-

San Andres, who with Revtex

CALTEX-REVTEX standout rider Rocket Glenn Aguilar form the vaunted 1-2 punch of the Revtex Motocross Team, posted a full lap victory in the second heat.

> "Kenneth has again proved his worth in the Novice Open competition in which the Rookie of the Year will be chosen," said San Andres' father-coach, Jun-Jun.

San Andres, who is also supparted by JBS Motorcycle Shop, KTM, Oakley, HJC Helmet, Renthal, Fox, UFO and Sultida Motorcycles, also took part in the more challenging Pro Expert 125, where he placed fourth behind his teammates Aguilar and Bebet de la Cruz and rival Jovie Saulog.

Aussie jockeys strut wares in KDJM festival



HOW will the country's best fare against three classy Australian jockeys? That will be known when the likes of Pat Dilema, Jeff Zarate and Jonathan Hernandez pit skills against the visitors from Down Under in the third Klub Don Juan de Manila festival from Oct. 21-24 at the San Lazaro Leisure Park in Carmona, Cavite.

Bernadette Cooper, Alana Dawn Sansom and David O'Heare, each sporting enviable credentials, will arrive on Tuesday, Oct. 19, raring to show their riding savvy in an Australia versus Philippines racing showdown.

"It's all systems go for the KDJM cavalcade

and we look forward to a bristling, never-before-seen excitement on the track," said Sonny Arevalo, president of the KDJM, which on Oct. 22 will hold in tandem with Australia's Magic Millions the nation's first-ever International Thoroughbred Auction sale with almost 100 horses up for grabs.

The P2 million Derby, and P500,000 Magic Millions Gumeas, Golden Girl and Juvenile headline the spectacle supported by Philracom, Manila Jockey Club Inc., Fort Ilocandia Hotel and Casino, Motolite and Norkis-Yamaha.

Edwin Villanueva



COLLEGE OF MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPP NES MAN. LA

RSITY OF THE PHILIPP NES MAN. A 547 Pedro Gil St., Ermits, Mani.a P O. Box 593, Telefax No. 536-1368

The U.P. College of Medicine is now accepting applicants for admission into First Year Medicine Proper for Academic Year 2005 – 2006. Application forms are available at the Admissions Office, UP College of Medicine. Absolute deadline for submission of application forms and requirements: December 10, 2004

Philtobo racefest kicks off

By Edwin Villanueva, contributor

EMPIRE King and Cover Girl may be the stars but Real Spicy will be the galloper to watch when the 5th Philiobo Grand Championshup Day blasts off today at the Santa Ana Park.

Already tipped as next year's hottest bet for the Triple Crown, Real Spicy is expected to be sent away as the heavy pick in the Mitra Cup Juversile Costs, one of six major events to be contested in the racefest staged by the Philippine Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Organization.

Real Spicy, a son of 1998 US Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes winner Real Quiet, is spear-heading another bid by the powerhouse Hermie Esguerra Stable to dominate the 2-year-old bracket since Lamborghini and coupled bet Ocean Deep are also the solid favorites to fight it out for first place in the Mitra Cup Juvenile Filhes.

"He's raring to run already. His workouts are good," stud ace jockey Pat Dilema on Real Spicy who will be ranged against Montezuma, Smokin' Red, Sir Henry and stablemate War Alert.

Empire King is also said to be in tip-top shape despite a brief layoff as he guns for a win in the 3-Year-Old Colts, while Cover Girl heads the cast in the 3-Year-Old Fillies.

Rounding out the featured events in the spectacle sponsored by Philracom, PCSO, PRCI, Herma Farms, Ranchito San Gabriet, Motolite, Magic Millions Ltd. Australia, Unilever, EEG, Papiroman, Rolling Green and Money Tree farms are the Philtobo Open headed by West Bound, and the Classic topbilled by High Octane and Lord of All

"We're all set for this year's Philtobo racefest. We're inviting the bayang karerista to come over and watch today's events at Santa Ana," said Philtobo president Bienvenido "Nonoy" Niles Jr.

Meanwhile, Philippo director Manny Viray said highlights of the Grand Championship Day will be shown starting at 9 tonight over Solar Sports Plus.

Asso expected to grace the affair are Philtobo chair emeritus Don Antonio Floirendo, chair Tonet Lagdameo, vice president Koko Cayco, secretary Joy Rojas, treasurer Jess Cantos and directors Michael Triliana, Tito de Jesus, Albert Yam, Edd Gonzalez, Mar Tirona, Jun Sevilia, Ernesto Logarta Jr., Ed Moreno, Honorato Neri and Viray.

AT SANTA ANA BY MA 989

Race 1-1. Doñe Gelay 2 Andee's Time 3. Contmodore Riger Race 2-1. D As in Dible 2 Rock Attack Attack 3. Map Powr-

Race 3-1 Real Spicy/War Aleri 2 Montezuma Race 4-1 Royal Catch/Ragini 2 Being There 3. Mossette

Race 5-1 Lamborghink Ocean Deep 2 In Command
Race 6-1 Suppressed/Marque 2 Wedding Yows 3. Wear the Fox

Hat 4. Outen of Diamonds

Race 7--1 Cover Girl 2 Moab/Concorde 3 Cool Runnings

Race 8--1 Sharp Drive 2. Lord Brieft 3 Rule and Reign 4. Sweet

Tally 5. Native Prince
Race 9-1 Empire King 2 Shadovrlax/Fear Factor 3. Nothing to De-

clare/Semper Spirit

Race 10- 1 Megic Dancer 2 Glgl's Gold 3, Duenn Banana 4, Hurry

Prince 5 Money Order
Rece 11-1 Lord of All 2 High Octane
Race 12-1 Most Bound 2 DeznoBasi Stew 5 Catwalk Pla 4 Lyon-

Race 14-1 Angel Eyes 2. Big Maria 3, Ravensworth 4, Shami Sham 5, Water Girl 6 Ocean Magic LOOK GOOD, PLAY BETTER



nine, moreover, komovete, rise a publication of the publicat Viscouring Cine.

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Rain washes out NY-Boston Game 3

BOSTON—Steady rain Friday night sius (50 Fahrenheit). forced Major League Baseball to post-pone Game 3 of the American League Championship Series between the Boston Red Sox and New York Yan-

The steady rain began about two hours before the scheduled 8:19 p.m. start, and fell harder at about 8 p.m. MLB announced the postponement at 8:05 p.m.

The best-of-seven series, which New York leads 2-0, is scheduled to resume Saturday night at Fenway Park. Game 4 wil. be Sunday hight and Game 5, if necessary, on Monday at

The National Weather Service forecast called for mostly cloudy skies for Saturday night, with a 50-percent chance of showers. The temperature was expected to dip below 10 degrees Cel-

Bronson Arroyo remains scheduled to pitch Game 3 for Boston against New York's Kevin Brown, and Tim Wakefield is to start Game 4 for the Red Sox against Orlando Hernandez.

Boston manager Terry Francona hasn't decided whether Game 2 loser Pedro Martinez would replace Derek Lowe, his scheduled Game 5 starter.

"I know that's a possibility," Francona said. "When the time comes, we'll announce what we think is in our best interests. I think first we need to find out what we think is in our best in-

New York manager Joe Torre and pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre were leaning against changing their rotation to move up Mike Massina, who beat Curt Schilling in the opener. Mussina remained scheduled to start Game 5.

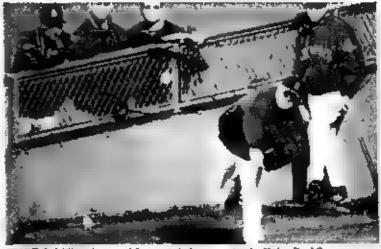
"We felt yesterday, and we talked a little bit today, that we'll probably stay with the (Nos.) 3, 4 guys," Torre said.

Schilling, unable to start Game 5 because of his ailing right ankle, threw for about 15 minutes in the bullpen about two hours before game time, but not at full strength. Twice, he stopped to tweak his shoe as about nine Red Sox officials, doctors and trainers kept a close eye on him.

There was no immediate announcement on his availability.

Because of the ramout, the teams would lose the off-day if the series goes beyond five games. Game 6 remains scheduled for Yankee Stadium on Tuesday night.

Last year, Game 4 at Fenway Park was postponed, causing the teams to lose the travel day of the series, which New York won 4-3.



CURT Schilling (second from right), scratched off the Red Sox roster for Game 5, practices in front of Boston's coaching staff.

Heat triumph minus O'Neal

TAMPA, Florida--With Shaquille say I can." O'Neal out of the lineup due to a tight left hamstring, the Miami Heat got 18 points from Dwayne Wade and Udohis Haslem and beat the Orlando Magic, 95-89, in a preseason game Friday night.

Heat coach Stan Van Gundy said O'Neal is also expected to sit out Saturday's game against the defending **NBA champion Detroit Pistons**

O'Neal said he hart the hamstring at practice earlier in the week.

"I'm good ... being cautious," said the 7-foot-1 (2.16-meter) All-Star

Without O'Neal, the Heat relied on the scoring of Wade and Haslem for their first preseason victory. Miami was outrebounded on the defensive boards 29-27, and 46-40 overall.

Hastem had 11 points in the first half, helping the Heat to a 50-40 lead at the break. Wade scored nine points 32 year-old O'Neal said. "But if it ever in the third quarter as the Heat built a 75-67 advantage

Steve Francis, Dwight Howard, the first overall selection in the NBA draft, and Jameer Nelson, the 2003-04 national college player of the year, each scored 17 points for Orlando.

Grant Hill scored eight points in 29 minutes in his second game after

O'Neal, acquired from the Lakers in a blockbuster trade about a month after Los Angeres lost to Detroit in the NBA Finals, said Friday he hopes to play another five or six seasons, and again expressed interest in owning an NBA team after retiring.

gets to the point where I can't do it, then I'll call you guys and we'l, have a beautiful press conference and we'll have a beautiful Shaq Farewel. Tour

"I'm getting older I'm getting sexier I'm getting meaner. I can still do what I do."

In other preseason matches, Philadelphia nipped Toronto, 99-97, while Chicago tripped New Orleans, 103-100, in overtime.



gentina's Angel Cabrera in their quarterfinal clash here on Friday. But Els had to wait until the 36th

hole to seal victory and even then it took an eight-foot putt to book has semufinal spot.

"It was tough," said the South African. "There are no easy games in this championship. It was a seesaw battle all day. I had a really good start this afternoon and then let hum back into it.

"I missed quite a few putts but getting through the first two rounds, certainly you start getting

some momentum going." Earlier in the day he completed his first round match against Scott Drummond, winning 2 and 1

The world No. 2 will now meet a bloodied Padraig Harrington on Saturday after the Iristunan beat his fellow Ryder Cup teammate Thomas Lever 1 up in a tense finish.

Harrington not only had to batzle

the famed Burma Road course was taking its toll on the Dubliner.

In the morning round Harrington broke his 4-iron when his follow through wrapped round a tree. He was lucky to escape injury.

He was not so lucky in the afternoon when on the ninth hole he again wrapped his club around a tree, smashing his thumb and cutting it against the trunk.

For a moment it looked like it might be even more serious as Harrington grimaced in pain but after some treatment on the course by a team of first aid helpers he was able to continue.

But Harrington admitted afterwards that the injury was causing him problems trying to swing the

"I struggled for any feeling in the thumb. I couldn't grip the club. I realized I wasn't going to be able to hit good shots coming bome. I told myself don't my and make a swing. Just get the ball down the fairway anyway you can," he explained. AFP



ERNIE Els celebrates a quarterfinal wira.

Myskina boots out Davenport

Allen labels Kobe selfish

DWAYNE Wade picks up the slack for Miami in the absence of Shaq.

MOSCOW---Anastasia Myskina edged an offcolor Lindsay Davenport, 6-4, 7-6, in a tight battie between the defending champion and the new world No. 1 to reach the Kremlin Cup final for a second year in a row on Saturday.

SEATTLE, Washington-Seattle Supersonics

star Ray Allen has slammed Kobe Bryant for

being "seifish" and predicted the Lakers' team

leader might request a trade if Los Angeles

can't build a National Basketbal. Association

"If Kobe doesn't see he needs 2 1/2 good

players to be a legitimate playoff contender or

win a championship in about a year or two

he'll be calling out to (owner) Jerry Buss that

"We need some help in here," or "Trade me,"

Allen told the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, "And

we'l, all be saying, 'I told you so,' when he says

The French Open champion converted her opening set. Then, after both players were broken twice in the second set, the Russian raced away with a tiebreaker, 7-1, to clinch the match

"I wanted to keep the points short today as I wasn't feeling well," said the second-seeded American, who regained the No. 1 spot from injured Amelie Mauresmo by winning her opening match at the \$2.3 million Moscow tournament.

Allen is just the latest to lob verbal jabs at

"He's going to be very selfish," Allen pre-

"And he feels like he needs to show this league and the people in this country that he

dicted of Bryant who signed a seven-year,

is better without Shaq. That he can win cham-

Bryant, who has taken a lot of heat in the past

few weeks from former teammate Shaquille

O'Neal and ex-coach Phu Jackson.

\$136 million deal three months ago.

pionships without Shaq.

the load on this team."

"I made too many errors at the wrong time as first break point in the 10th game to take the I had to go for the big shots because I knew ! couldn't stay very long on the court today," she added. "I had a hard time with my chest and with my head. I wasn't 100 percent ready for the game today."

So offensively, he's going to jump out and MARIA-Cyan kept its grip of the overall say, 'I can average 30 points. I can still carry lead, but it was Auxilio-Magenta that made the biggest strides yesterday, leaning on a pair of dramatic sweeps from its level C2 heromes to leapfrog to secand place in the 1st MARP Cup INQUIRER badminton tournament at the Court

> Zone badminton hall yesterday. Marife Reyes and Emily Millare fought off six match points in the second set while Alexa Bacay and Dianne Villafuerte also snarched a sweep from the jaws of an imminent second set loss to a pair of tensely-fought matches as Auxilio claimed the final four points to beat Priem-Black, 13-9, and hike as total to 23 points.

A point up in first place is the powerhouse Maria squad, which bucked a

Rufuto-Yellow, 12-10.

Cyan keeps lead; Magenta strikes

Rufino is now at third going into next Saturday's final round with 20 points while Prieto slipped to fourth with 19.

Auxilio showed up minus slupper John Nery, Celine Madamba and Joey Villareal due to injunes and the team members were patches on their left breasts bearing their manals.

That fired up the squad as the duos of Carlo Mercado and Prescy Frago and Gilbert Rago and Michael Cacio kept their unbeaten streak going with 2-0 wins. Also unbeaten for Auxilio were Militare and Reyes while contributing another 2-0 result was the pair of Alison Lopez and Francis Ochoa. Villafuerte earlier teamed up with Karen Garcia for

mild hicrop in its opening game to aip another sweep in the tournament held in honor of PDI chair Marixi Pneto.

Prieto got two points from Bong Viray and Jojo Isles; Cio Francisco and Genie Lagman; Abel Ulanday and Ruth Navarra; and Chona Gomez and Richard Cuaresma.

Masoy Cabuhat and Ning Lalicon keyed Maria's early run with a twopoint finish. Dennis Alcaraz and Nilo Alterado; Adela Mendoza and Sonny Cruz; Angie Aguila and Arnold Gatdula; and Adeile Gemildo and Imee Alcantara also contributed two points for Maria.

Rufino's two-pointers were Joel Macawile and Jojo Samonte; Ruby dela Cruz and Boying Hagan, Chona Agustin and Darwin Romanilios; and Mylene de Jesus and Tess dela Cruz.



GRACE UNDER 20062340/00

Grace Park of South Korea, tees off during the Samsung World Championship in Palm 4 Desert, California. After opening the tournament with a 10under 62, Park finished with a 67 to open a four-shot lead over Shi Hyun Ahn and Karen Stupples in the 20player event. Park was |5 under on the Big Horn Golf Club's Canyons Course.

Alabang sweeps Platinum Cup assignments

By Musong R. Castillo

ALABANG Country Club swept its first-day assignments yesterday to top Group A of the Batrie of the Courts: Platinum Inter-Club bad minton championships' south eliminations at the Olivarez courts in Parafiaque.

Alabang had only four players and did not field a team in the ladies' doubles, but the team frolicked with Paul Martinez and Arnie Brizuela and Fisher Chua and Thea del Rosario going undefeared in three matches in the men's doubles and mixed doubles events, respectively.

The Palms Country Club will also go into the second day of eliminations this morning without a loss, topping Group B with a 4-0 record after

victories over Olivarez, Camp Badminton FTI, Leap 'N Smash and Alabang Racquet Club.

Alabang Country Club was still the story of the day in the event presented by Globe Platinum and Inquirer Badminton as it posted impressive victories over South Central and Anvi) before

walking over Badder's Club. Anvil, Intramums Badminton Club and Powerzone were tied for second place in Group A with 2-1 cards, All have two games left starting at 9 a.m. today. Other Group B matches were still

going on at presstime. Martinez and Brizuela dropped just eight points in a 15-6, 15-2 defear of South Central before whipping Anvil's Noriel Andrade and Ramon Villarin, 15-0, 15-6.

Chua and Del Rosario were merciless in a 15-0, 15-1 whipping of South Central. They showed class in winning the second match that went through a deciding set, 15-9, 12-15, 7-0.

The top two placers in each group will advance to the cross-over semifinals later today with the winners earning spots in the grand championship scheduled next month at the Market! Market! at the Bonifacio Global City.

Valle Varde Pasig and Player's Best of Marikina won their semifinal matches in the East Sector eliminations and are assured of seats in the grand finals.

The tournament then shifts to the Central eliminations next weekend in courts in Mandaluyong and Makati.



Arcilla clinches 7th title for year

country's No. 1 tennis player by ruling the first Enervon Open singles championship yesterday at the Makati Sports Club.

Displaying awesome form, the 24-year-old Southeast Asian Games veteran downed fellow nationa, and second seed Joseph Victorino, 7-5, 2-0 (retired), for his seventh title this year.

Arcida survived doubles parmer and fifth seed Adelo Abadia, 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, while Victorino struggled past fellow national player and thard seed Ro ando Rues, 4-6, 7-6 (7), 6-4, in the semifinals.

"I gambled with my game. If I had the chance, I went to the net. I kept surprising him with different shots," said Arcilia, who retrophy from Unilab assistant vice president - the Bohol Invitationals two weeks ago. Alvin So and tournament organizer Johnny

"Maybe, I took advantage of his health condition. But despite his fever, Victorino played

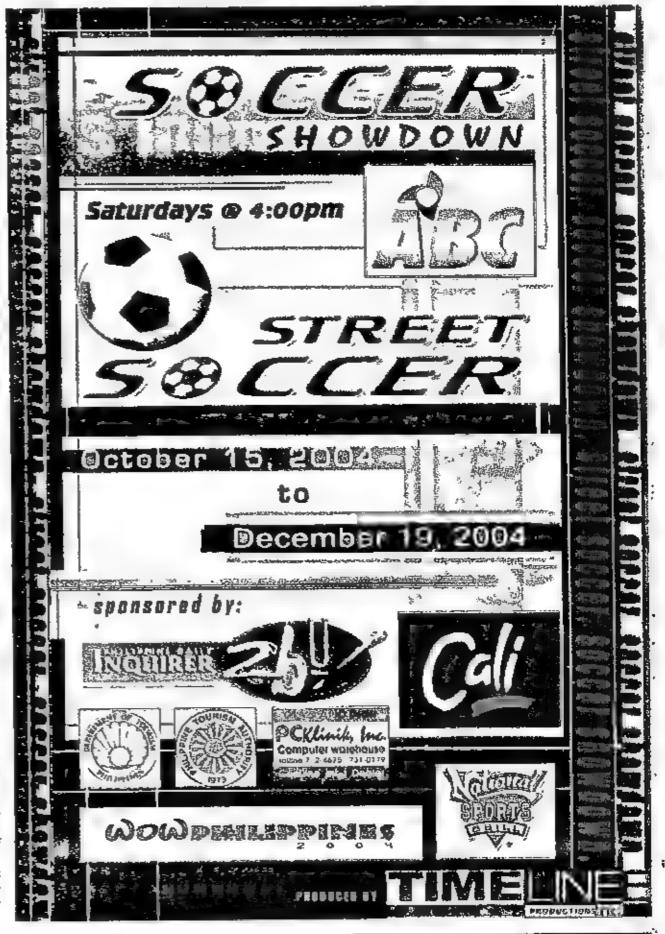
JOHNNY Arcilla lived up to his billing as the a very good game. Parang walang sakit ," said Arcilla, who trailed, 4-5, before winning the next three games in the first set.

"I hope I can keep my level of performance and win more tournaments," said Arcilla, who also won in Marawi City, Misamis City, Mandaue, Cagayan de Oro, Mandaluyong and Subic this year.

Victorino, who managed to play and win his semifinal match despite nursing a fever last Friday, put up a strong challenge in the first set but was forced to quit after two games in the second set.

"I fest weak already after the first set. I really wanted to finish the match but my body cannot continue playing," said the 20-yearceived the champion's purse of P38,000 and a old Victorino, who beat Arcilla in the final of

Arcilla and Victorino, who both saw action in the Asian Championships held in Uzbekistan last month, will spearhead the Philippine campaign in next year's SEA Games.





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Editor Louie C. Camino Assistant Editor Emmie G. Velarde

Edu offers \$5,000 reward for information on P112teS

By Nini Valera

EDU MANZANO is offering as much as \$5,000 in reward money for leads that could lead the Optical Media Board to manufacturers and sellers of fake optical media.

Manzano, head of the OMB, told Inquirer Entertainment last week that the anti-piracy agency had already given a \$3,500 reward for information that led to a major bust.

The amounts, though substantial in these days of financial crisis, are, however, just a drop in the bucket compared with the amount of potential revenues that both the local and national governments are losing to pitates.

Manzano, who reportedly earns P120,000 a month as OMB head but who claims to pay for his own gasoline, cell phone bills, airplane tickets and meals, said the reward money comes from stakeholders—owners of products and brands or labels—and record and movie producers.

"We have a kitty, and we source funds from our limited resources and from contributions from the producers (whose products are parated)," the actor and TV host said.

Last Tuesday, he was elated over the success of the raids conducted by the OMB with the Criminal and Investigation Group transnational division on four warehouses suspected to be manufacturing fake optical media and one outlet selling them.

He said the raids resulted in the seizure of P100 million worth of pirated products, mostly VCDs, replicated with the use of computer burners, the biggest haul so far for the pirate raiders.

Manzano said the establishments raided were at 58 Cambridge St. and 61 Harvard St., both in Cubao, Quezon City, two warehouses in the vicinity of Tutuban Mall in Divisoria, Manila, and CD Square, a VCD outlet in Robinsons Ermita

He dentified the owners of the piracy operations as Simon Chan and Ricky Hu, suppliers of pirated computer games, music and business software in the Philippines. Both were not present during the raids, but were found to be registered owners of the establishments based on electric bills and other records of occupancy, according to Manzano.

He said investigation prior to the raid showed that Chan and Hu were the biggest suppliers of fake optical media

The raid was conducted based on a search warrant issued by Judge Antonio Eugenio of Manila.

Manzano observed that "lately, there have been more pirated products in VCD format, which are replacated using only burners."

Most pirated goods, he added, come from Malaysia, Indonesia, China and Singapore. Thesday was a good day for Manzano, he



"THE BEST of the new generation of comics," the Oscar show producer says of Chris Rock.

Chris to rock 2005 Oscars

LOS ANGELES—Sharp-tongued comedian Chris Rock has been chosen to host the 77th annual Academy Awards, the film industry's highest honors, next February, the producer of the show said on Thursday as he reached out to a younger generation of comics

It will be the first time that Rock, a former "Saturday Night Live" cast member, will host the show watched by millions around the world. He will succeed veteran Oscar emcee Billy Crystal, who hosted the awards show earlier this year.

"I am a huge fan of Chris Rock," Oscar producer Gi. Gates said in a statement. "He always makes me laugh and he always has something interesting to say. Chris represents the best of the new generation of comics."

Rock, 39, known for his often-provocative CHRIS/A3-2

told Incomer Entertainment.

"Like every day, we're getting leads."

He describes himself as a field man, who goes with the law enforcers during raids, surveillance, and coordination meetings with other government agencies. The job has already brought him to Malaysia and Indonesia where he participated in surveillance operations on suspected illegal manufacturers.

But he stressed that the real heroes in the fight against paracy are the men and women of the OMP.

"They do not get hazard pay, they are placed in life-threatening situations, and I've never seen them complain," he said.

But he dismissed the dangers the job poses on his life. "It's like crossing the street," he said. "You just have to be careful."



P120,000 MAN. That's how much he's paid as OMB chair, but he spends his own money to carry out his duties.



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ENTERTAINMENT

Vilma Santos and 49 others in Beijing

TRUST Mother Lily Mon- people to Beijing, including the teverde to do things in a big

There was a time she was producing 52 movies a year just by herself, which is a dramatically huge number when you consider that, as of this month of this year, all our movie producers combined cannot come up with even 40 films.

When the Industry fell into hard times, and so did Mother. And at her all-time low, she managed to produce at best only "five or seven films in a year," she says, and everyone drumbeat that she'd lost the game to Star Cinema.

Mother, the survivor, comes back with "Basta wag lang I produce four films. In Chinese, do not say that number. It means patay. Ay, ha-ha-ha-ha."

Well. Mother should know what she's talking about.

At 65, she's done it all: youth films, drama, sex, action, comedy, horror, romance, fantasy, realism. Name it, she's done it. She's made bilaos fly, put kanusons on everybody she's made duds, she's made art, she's made friends, she's made enemies.

Leijing

Well, Mother is at it again. At a sa time when the sputtering movie industry will probably manage a miserable 50 films in all this year-and that, thanks only to the December film festival output-she is hard at work on another super production: "Mano

And again, she is doing things

wonderful Vilma Santos her-

Although, as Mother demurs, it is her daughter Roselle who organized the trip to the last detall. "Ako, ang papel ko, pabilibile long ng cheongsam in Shanghai."

All right, but very Mother, good money would not be wasted, the schedule was purushing. Up at 6 a.m. and back at 10 p.m., every single day for three full days, under three degrees centigrade weather.

Punishing even for the film's main star, Vilma Santos, who, legend has it, totally needs five cups of coffee before she can even stir in the morning. At least that used to be the case, says show-biz veteran Douglas Quijano, who's traveled with the star to Amsterdam for "Ms X" and to New York for "Divorce Pinoy Style," and had no reason to expect anything different in

Well... surprise, surprise! The star, who turns 51 on Nov. 3, is at the horel coffee shop at 7 and is still hyper at 10! And in between those hours, she does like everybody does.

"Lakad nang lakad at umuupo 'pag walang kalsada maupuan," says talent manager Arnold Vegafria. "Pag gustong magpahinga sa building, kahit sa hagdan. Di nga raw niya nagagawa ito sa Maynila."

She bore everything well, even the walking up and down, and down and up, the Great Wall in her high heels! "It was torbig. Or how else to call flying 50 ture," says talent manager Man-



ny Valera, "but she had a dressy outfit for the pictorial, so she wore heels!"

At trip's end, nobody could recall anything about Vilma that was not about glamour or grace. She was a star, and everyone treated her like one.

And so it floored the young and quiet Dennis Trillo when the Star for All Seasons, noticing how he never seemed to say a word, coaxed hum, in front of everybody: "Anak, halika, yakapin mo ako... smile ka naman diyan."

Vilma Santos set the tone. The other one to do so was Mother Lily.

The Regal Films matriarch began the group's very first day with a speech in the bus. She told everyone that she wanted them all to be one happy family, that they were all in China to work but also to have fun. And she was happy to welcome them, she said.

True to her word, she spread the welcome mat. Billeting them in five-star splendor, treating them to five-star restaurants, serving them one too many lauriars, and generally making them all feel good about being ex-

As a result, when everyone got back there were no stories to

The movie veterans, unused to no incidents and too much harmony, had nothing to report! Even talent manager Dolor Guevarra, a great one for telling stories to the detail, had nothing to tell: Naku, tawa lang kamu nang tawa. Si Vi. namamatay sa katatawa sa kahit ano, pati na sa roll call ko every morning: Rosa Vilma Santos! Present? Panay long kami tawa. Ang saya namin!"

The young ones

Things were so harmonious, even the young stars forgot they belonged to rival stations.

Walang unaban, came back the report, between and among Angelica Panganiban, Carlos Agumo, and Patrick Garcia (Channel 2 talents), who shopped as one, are at one table, and gossiped as one barkada, with Dennis Trillo and Angel Locsin (Channel 7 talents). Even as Karylle (7) and John Prats (2) seem to have caught each other's eye, if Mother Lily's broad hints about them looking good together are anything to go by.

Every day of their stay, these rival stars from rival stations huddled at the back of the bus. inseparable. When it came time to fly back home, these highly valuable properties of their respective networks, were still huddled, this time at the back of the China Southern plane, inseparable to the last.

Back home, Mother Lily is feeling mighty sansfied. Asked if the money she is spending on "Mano Po 3" (Vilma's fee alone is said to be anywhere between P5million; the Beijing trip



VILMA Santes and Mother Lily

would've run into the millions) is worth it, the businesswoman says without hesitation: "All worth it."

She adds, "I don't mind spending, basta masaya aka. Yong pamilya kanu, joint effort kami Lahat mabait! Si Ate Vi, she is so gracious. She smiles when you talk to her, she says thank you. Gracious talaga. Magandang too. She does not give tension. She is not pa-Star for all Seasons. She even pull her maleta herselft in

China and in Manila, she pull her maleta "

And note, says the veterans in the group, Vilma had only one suitcase! And this carried her costumes as weill

Meantime, Arnold Vegafria is waxing proud. He says the Ch.nese locals always stared and hovered around the Pinoy stars. "In fairness," says a very biased Arnold, "walang pangit sa mga artista natin! Panay tayo magaganda at guwapo!"

Chris to rock

brand of humor, marks a sharp departure from the lower-key style of Crystal, 57, a longtime favorite of Oscar audiences for his deadpan delivery, smooth ad-libs ized. and Hollywood send-ups

in an era of heightened sensilivity to indecency on the air-

last February, Rock might seem a terest from younger viewers, esbold choice given the earthy, often profane act he has popular-

But his selection makes sense from the standpoint of attempts by producers and the Oscar-spon-

breast-baring Super Bowl show and Sciences to draw greater inpecially the 18- to 49-year-old age group most prized by TV advertisers, experts said.

Other recent Oscar hosts include Steve Martin, who emceed the show in 2003 and

1999 and 2002.

Rock, a parive of Brooklyn, made his film debut playing a parking valet in the 1987 Eddie Murphy comedy Beverly Hills Cop II" but got his big break when he joined the "Saturday Night Live" ensemble in the early

There, he made a name for lampooning błack

celebrates like Machael Jackson and creating such comic characters as Nat X, the militant talk show host.

A three-time Emmy winner for his comedy work on HBO, including the special "Bring the Pain." Rock is currently shooting the feature film "The Longest Yard" with fellow "SNL" alumnus Adam Sandler.

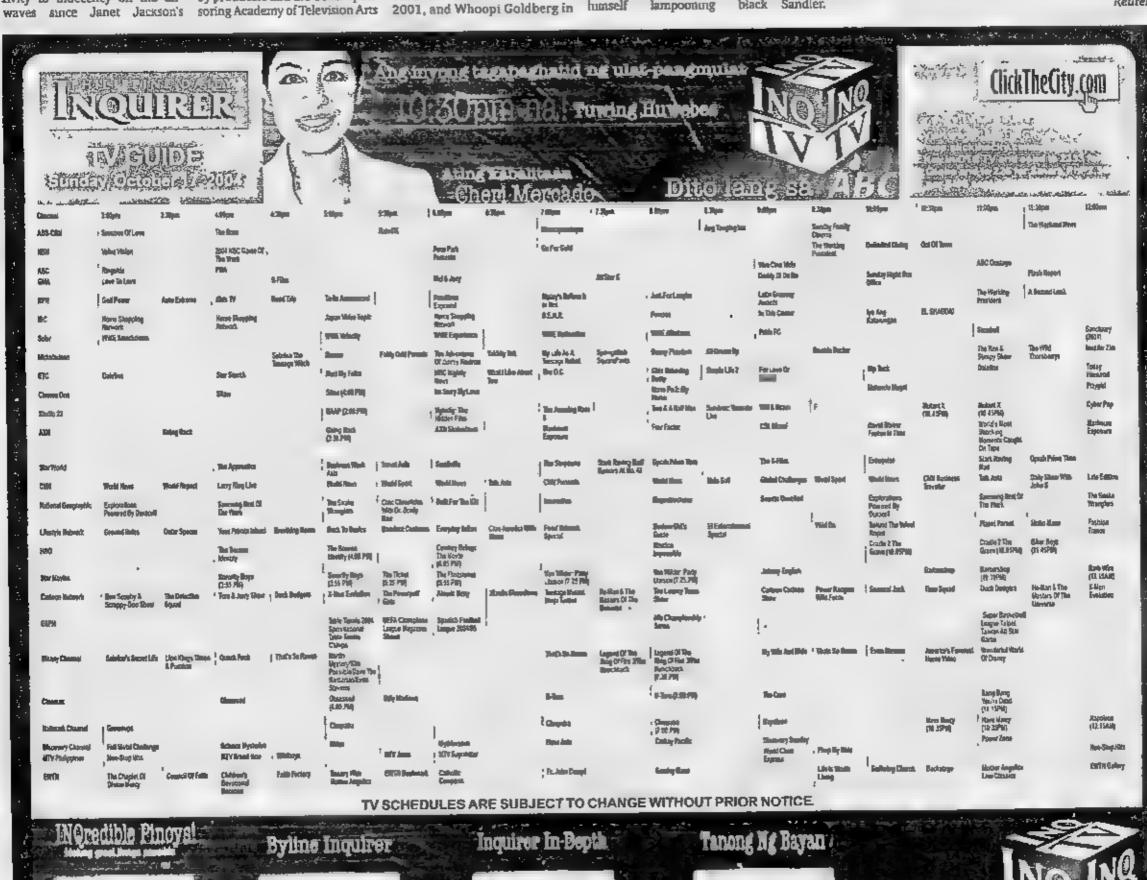
Ngayong Huwebes

A They in Girt

His other film credits include "Head of State," "Bad Company" and "Nurse Betty."

He hosted the MTV Video Music Awards last year.

The 77th Academy Awards show will be broadcast live on Feb. 27 on ABC from the Kodak Theater in Hollywood. ABC is a unit of The Walt Disney Co. Reuters



ENTERTAINMENT

The thrill is gone

THIS past week, we've been viewing the new "StarStruck" search on Channel 7 and "Star Circle Ouest* on Channel 2.

Once more, thousands of young hopefuls are putting themselves and their future in the hands of the two talent searches' jurors.

Only a handful of them will make it to the finals, with their promise of fame and fortune in the heady world of show business. But that hasn't kept all those thousands of hopefuls from laying themselves and their dreams on

The selection process is as interesting and even exciting as it was last year, but the thrill is gone because the first winners of the competitions haven't exactly distinguished themselves as performers.

So, we wonder why the judges put them through the wringer so rigorously, and when they do the same this second time around, we're no longer impressed.

Sure, Star Circle's Sandara Park is now a huge success, but her performances aren't really exceptional.

And, over at "StarStruck," that tilt's kiddle winners are nowhere near being as viewable as genume child-performer finds like Niño Muhlach and Aiza Seguerra, so what's the current fuss and bother for?

It looks like all that "StarStruck" and "Star Circle Quest" really want is to discover and build up new batches of cute talents who will thrill the adolescent and teenybopper audience out there all the way to killy heaven.

If so, let's not give them such a hard time, shall we? Let's look for cute, for porma, for a perfect set of teeth, great bodies, als to die for, schoolgirl and schoolboy complexions, acceptable acting, singing and dancing ability, a healthy dose of ambition and competitiveness, a willingness to give up their privacy and work round the clock with little sleep -and let it go at that

Jimmy Fallon in 'Taxi'

THE NEW chase comedy "Taxi" is being built up as a Queen Latifah starrer, but we're watching it because its young lead comic is

We became Fallon fans when we watched him perform zany antics on TV's "Saturday Night Live" comedy program. He was funny without having to resort to slapstick and offensive humor.

Falion is one of a burgeoning batch of TV-



film "clowns" who don't look like freaks and gargoyles. In fact, Pallon is good-looking enough to do romantic lead role, if he wanted

But his chosen field now is comedy, so we'll just have to wait for him to make the transition to romantic or dramatic stardom, like Tom Hanks before him. That will eventually happen, sure as shooting.

The sad thing is, when Fallon opted to launch his film career, he had to leave "SNL." Well, the stakes are bigger in the movie world, so some things have got to give.

In "Taxi," Fallon plays a car-less cop (his lack of vehicular skills has landed him in the precinct doghouse).

Together with a speed demon of a cab driver (Queen Latifah), he's hot on the heels of a gang of beautiful Brazilian bank robbers who are on a crime spree all over New York

We hear that Fallon passed up around 30 movie offers before he decided to go with "Taxe." There must be something especially funny about this movie's material. If it clicks, Pallon's movie career is "made."

But, what if it doesn't fly? It'il be back to the TV sait mines for Jimmy Pallon. Well, there are worse fates

Dance contest

"DON'T You Just Know It (Don't Ha Ha)" by Captain Jack is now the dance cut used in a dance contest on Channel 7's "Eat Bulaga."

The Universal Records promo offers cash prizes of P10,000 for daily winners and P5,000 consolation prize every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Groups composed of two girls and a boy can join the dance com-

'No News from God'

PENELOPE Cruz's controversial starter, "No News from God," is now available on DVD and VCD on Star Records video. Winner of an award from the Cinema Writers

Circle in Spain, the film is about an angel who is sent down from heaven to try to save the soul of a boxer and her mission appears to be suc-

with a turbulent past She pretends to be the boxer's wife,

ceeding—until Hell also sends one of its best agents to frustrate the good angel's best efforts.



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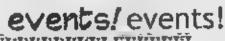
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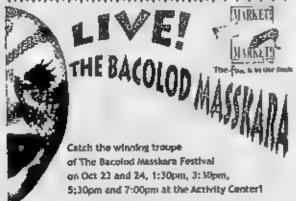
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Mr. Incredible

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all. His style, wit and ability to create y "lighly intelligent and counting, ice from moisture in the air (not w adrome spends his days on winn his special multi-functi rossaa, a remote island paradise oyag lattle B.k. The far side of the world. An shed inventor, Syndrome is een admiration and toward the Supers.

Like most ten year old boys, Dash seems to be moving even when standing still. Full of restless energy, he has the power of supprespeed; a power so useful for playing pranks on his least afform thacher that he has wifficulty heeping it in check.

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supposed to use them? the black sheep of the most unusual thing show there's nothing dien and him.

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'This is not goodbye'

By Carla P. Gomez PDI Visayas Bureau

PONTEVEDRA, Negros Occidental-"This is not goodbye," the priest said during Mass at this town's parish church before the ashes of Rio Diaz-Cojuangco were placed in their final resting place yesterday. In our own time we will be united with her in heaven."

Fr. Jigi Caralg added, "Rio, we look for-ward to seeing you with outstretched arms with our Lord in the gates of heaven."

The urn bearing Rio's ashes was placed in the chapel inside the vast Cojuangco-owned Hacienda Balbina shortly before noon yester-

The final rite ended two days of public mourning here over the death of the former beauty queen, actress, television host and this town's former vice mayor.

Rio, 45, former vice mayor of this town, died Oct. 3 in California after six years of bat-

The laying of the urn at Hacienda Balbina's chapel was strictly a family-only affair. But the public had a chance to say goodbye to Rio in the funeral Mass held at 9 30 a.m. at this town's parish church, the St. Michael the Archangel Church

The Mass ended with the blessing of the urn by Fr. Caraig and the distribution of rosaries to those who were present in the



PIOLO Pascual for Intensity by First Quadrant

Intense? I just do what I do'

By Carmela Teresa Almonte

"PEOPLE perceive me as an intense actor," says Piolo Pascual, "I don't know; I can't judge myself. I just do what I do. That's their description [and] It's flattering. I don't know if I'm intense but they say I am."

What is "intense," for sure, is the awardwinning actor's schedule these days.

Piolo, proclaimed Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series during the last Entertainment Press Awards, has just finished the soap "Mangarap Ka" for ABS-CBN. His previous telenovelas went on to have up to three sequels, but he doesn't feel bad that this didn't happen with "Mangarap," which ran for seven

"Ganyan talaga ang buhay (That's life)," Piolo says. "You can only hope for the best. I'm grateful that ABS-CBN gave me a show that I really loved. From the time we started to the time we wrapped up, the energy stayed

On top of the energy, he says, the cast created such a bond that it felt like one happy family all throughout.

While waiting for possibly a new soap, the versatile performer has a movie project in pre-production. It teams him up with Bea Alonzo, and will be released early next year.

Secret story

Piolo promises that the "fun, feel-good" movie is "a first in local movies ... really

Here he stops. "I cannot disclose the story; baka masulot kamt (we may be preempted).

The movie will be directed by "Manong" Gilbert Perez, whom Piolo worked with in last year's "Kahit Isang Saglit (Even for a Moment)." His blockbuster starrer "Milan" was shown last February.

He muses: "So parang once a year long ako gumawa ng pelikula-ganu'n kahirap, (It seems I can make movies only once a yearthat's how hard it is)."

Maybe so, but it could be because he con-

stantly has other stuff cooking. Piolo will also be working soon on his

'INTENSE' A3-2

trict Rep. Carlos Cojuangen, then carried the urn bearing his wife's ashes out of the church, followed by members of the Diaz and Cojuangco families, who all proceeded to Hacienda Balbina, about 2.5 kilometers from the church.

With Cojuangeo were their children-Claudia, 9, and Jame, 7- and Ali, 21, Rio's son by singer Hadji Alejandro.

Also present were the congressman's family led by his parents Eduardo and Gretchen Cojuangco and Rio's 12 sisters and brothers,

including former Miss Universe Gloria Diaz. Copuangeo called on those present at the ter the fold of eternity."

Rio's husband, Negros Occidental fourth dis- Mass to remember that it was God who gave Rio a joyful life.

"Let us not be sad because Rio would like us to be happy," said the young widower. "She lived a joyful life by God's grace. What would

make her sad is if we don't know why she was Rio's son Ali also urged the people to "let

everything she stood for remain in us" so that his mother would not have died in vain. Father Caraig rold the crowd he hoped that

the way Rio lived her life would revitalize their Christian faith "so we, too, can safely en-



REP. CARLOS Cojuangco and his wife, Rio Diaz, enjoying intimate moment together.



ENTERTAINMENT

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Outstanding Radio Commentator awardee

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DZRJ 810 AM radio commentator, program of the Consumers Union of the Philippines host and producer Gerry Cornejo is Most (CUP) for the third straight year, 2002-

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LADOER 48

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CHISANTA

Cornejo received his third CUP trophy at the 15th Annual National Consumer Awards (Anca) held recently at Les Pavillon ball-

Cornejo was cited for his belanced and well-researched commentaries on national issues. His prime-time radio program, KKK sa RJ," which airs daily on DZRJ AM 810 kHz, Monday to Priday, 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., was also cited for its broad-based mass appeal due to its interactive, innovative, informative format and high entertainment value.

"KKK so RJ" also promotes health through its anti-smoking advocacy as well as public safety through obeying traffic laws, road courtesy and pedestrian discipline.

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CUP'S CHOICE. Cornejo has been winning since 2002.

of the program are MediaKom, Kraft Foods Philippines, Glaxo Smith Kline, Department Health, Bill Gates Poundation International, Framework Convention on Tobacco Control Alltance of the Philippines (FCAP) and the Yosi Kadiri Organization of Philippines.

For more information, e-mail kkksarj@yahoo.com or gerrycomejo@gmail-.com or text 0926-7114446)

'Intense? I just do what I do'

From page A3-1

ning artist like himself---composer, arranger, and musical director Louie tively dubbed "Piolo Sings Louie," and is slated for a Valentine season release. around the same time as his movie

with Bea. That he is excited goes without saying. "I just got my study tage. Six remakes of Louie's songs, and hopefully four originals! And we will start recording this

week." Concert tours? He leaves for Australia last week of the month with other members of the Hunks. On Nov. 7, he has another show set in Hong Kong and, in December, four more in the United States.

'Comfortability' factor

It's hard to see how, but Piolo will also have to find time for his obligations as the latest image model of First Quadwhich rant. launching its new line men's of cologne, Intensity. Two special edition scents, Passion and Spirit, have his name on the label.

If Piolo's philosophy as a product endorser is any indication, the scents would reflect his personal taste. He says the first thing he considers when mulling an ad contract is "comfortability."

The product has to sult him, he insists: "I have to believe in it, be comfortable with ft. Hinds 'yung pilit (not forced). I can't just get the money and not care what happens next,"



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FENG SHUI MIRCB Rates, PG 13

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Movies are aubject to change without prior nodes - For complete movie schedule, visit ware sandressa com



ENTERTAINMENT

Culkin pleads not guilty to drug charges

OKLAHOMA CITY—"Home Alone" proper lane changing, star Macaulay Gulkin entered not." Police searched the vehicle and guilty pleas at an Oklahoma City found him in possession of 17.3

Pormer child star Culkin, 24, appeared with his attorney to enter pleas on two misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled dangerous

substance The actor left after his brief appearance, remaining free on \$4,000 bond posted at the time of his ar-

Oklahoma law enforcement officials said it was unlikely Culkin would face prison time if convicted. The charges bring up to one year in prison but Oklaprosecutors are seeking drug descriptions part of a plea agreement that will not include

prison time. Culkin, best known for his role of the ingemous child who fends off burgars in the "Home Alone" movies, was arrested on Sept. 17 while driving through Oklahoma City en route to California from New York.

His car was pulled over for speeding and im-

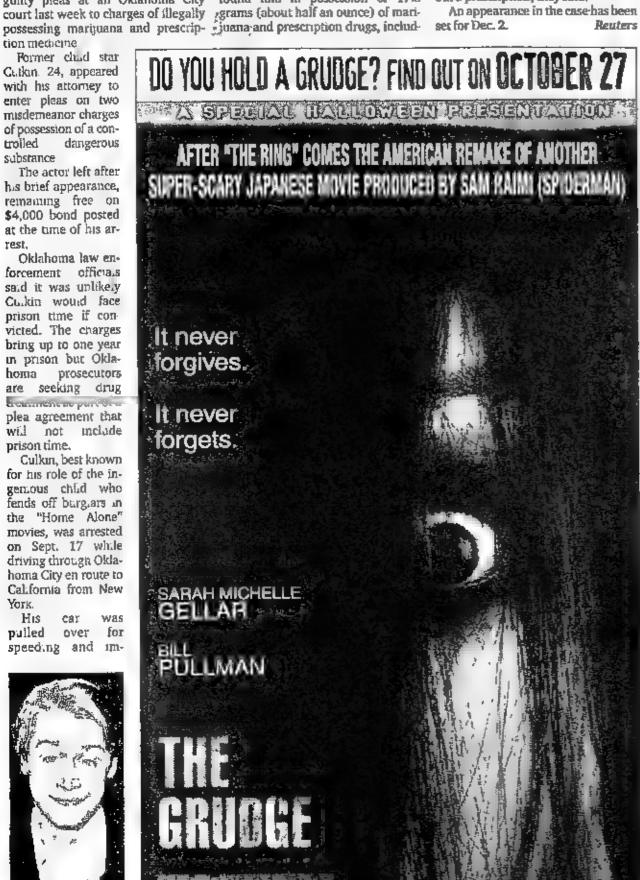


CULKIN

Xanax, he apparently obtained with-

An appearance in the case has been

out a prescription, they said,

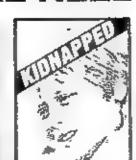








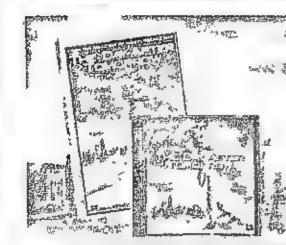






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Editor Louie C. Camino Assistant Editor Emmie G. Velarde

RED-LETTER DAY, Zsa Zsa's Oct. 9 outfit on "Born Diva" drew the biggest number of complaints for the show, says the MTRCB.



ROLE MODEL. Ask "Idois" like Regine to "show the proper example," the consors say.

Viewers complain
of 400 revealing
outfits of Zsa Zsa, Regine, censors say

By Marinel R. Cruz

TINGERS Zsa Zsa Padilla and Regine Velasquez wear outfits that are "too revealing," and television viewers are complaining because their attention is diverted to "unnecessary things."

That is according to the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB).

The censors have warned Zsa Zsa, host of "Born Diva" on ABS-CBN, and Regine, of "Pinoy Pop Superstar" on GMA 7, for wearing "improper" outfits on TV.

A memorandum signed by MTRCB chair Marissa Laguardia told the two networks to advise Zsa Zsa and Regine to wear *appropriate attire."

The memo noted that the two host-performers have been observed to wear outfits that are "too low" and "show their cleavage," just like what they wore during the Oct. 9 episodes of the talent-search programs that

Laguardia said the two hosts violated the parental guidance classification on TV when they wore clothes with "neckline that plunges

down to the abdomen, showing almost the with Vidanes, who promised to "inform" Zsa entire breasts."

We have been getting complaints from viewers for two months now," Laguardia told Inquired Entertainment in a telephone interview last Friday. "But we got the most number of complaints that Saturday [Oct. 9], so we decided to release the memorandum."

Laguardia said Regine's outfits first drew protests from viewers. But Zsa Zsa's attire last Oct. 9 provoked the biggest number of complaints that particular week.

"Born Diva," shown on prime time, makes such kind of attire unproper," Laguardia said in a letter to Cory Vidanes, ABS-CBN senior vice president for TV production. "It violates the Parental Guidance classification for televi-

"Please be reminded that Ms Velasquez is a role model to many youngsters with impressionable minds," the MTRCB chief also told Jose Mari Abacan, GMA 7 program manager "If we allow young ones to copy their idols, let us then ask these idols to show the proper example. Please remind Ms Vélasquez to wear attire that is appropriate for an early evening prime-time show."

Laguardia said she has personally spoken

Zsa of the MTRCB memorandum.

Laguardia quoted Abacan as saying he "appreciates the MTRCB's concern for the

"Zsa Zsa and Regine are beautiful in their own graceful way." Laguardia said. "They don't need to wear outfits that are too revealing. I know that outfits like these are in fashion today. But these only divert the viewers' attention to unnecessary things."

Laguardia added that wearing the "appropriate" outfit on TV would prevent any more "untoward incidents."

She was referring to the 20-day suspension imposed on Viva Hot Babe Asia Agcaodi last March after she "accidentally" exposed a breast during the Hot Babes' opening dance number on the noontime show "MTB Ang Saya Saya" on ABS-CBN

"We've already received many complaints about them," Laguardia said of the all-female group. "The network has to make sure that this will not happen on any of their shows again."

Laguardia said Jen Rosendahl, another member of the Viva Hot Babes, accidentally exposed a breast while dancing on another "MTB" episode last December.



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PREPHOTO

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ENTERTAINMENT

MTRCB & PG-13



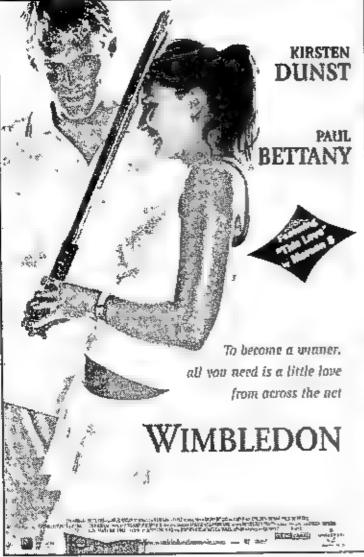
BMG releases Artist Collection albums of superstars

BMG Records (Pilipinas) Inc. announces the release of the initial batch of the Artist Collection, single-artist compilation albums.

The Artist Collection includes 10 albums from 10 superstars, each one a portrait of the

MTRCB PG-13 Enliderer below 13 was old will be allowed

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The Artist Collection includes the works of Whitney Houston, Santana, Toni Braxton, Kenny G, Hall & Oates, Elvis Presley, Rick Astley, Luther Vandross, Run DMC and TLC.

Each album features approximately 14 tracks of the artist's hits and album tracks. The generic paintings of the artists on the

album cover were made by world-renowned artist Hanoch Piven.

The Artist Collection is part of BMG International's catalogue strategy.

Another set is already being planned for





For more information, visit www.artistcol-

The Artist Collection, brought to you by BMG Records (Pilipinas), is now available for only P280 each CD at your favorite record stores nationwide, such as Astro Plus, Music One, O Music, Tower Records, Radio City. Shoemart and Odyssey Records.



Side A's 'Anthology' has turned gold

THE BAND that broke your heart Side A and its members are musiwith such hits as "Hold On" and "So Many Questions" gives back to fans an ultimate collection of Preestyle. their timeless pop repertoire un-der Warner Music Philippines.

local pop scene with their modest 1989 hit, "Eva Marie." That same year, Joey Generoso joined the band as vocahst. His rich, husky voice, combined with the band's penchant for lush melodies and high-energy performances, ce-mented Side A's position as the country's premiere live group.

Today, after close to 20 years, Philippines.

cal heroes to other live bands such as South Border and

Released recently, the muchawaited double-disc "Side A An-Side A first made waves in the thology" album contains 38 signature tracks.

At only P350, S de A fans and OPM lovers can't get a better deal than this super complete collection, which turned Gold (15,000 units sold) during the first few days of its release.

The "Side A Anthology" album is released by Warner Music

Enrollment going on at QC music school

THE PHILIPPINE Music Train- Quezon City. ing School (PMTS) is now accepting students in its Voice Development course, with advanced lessons on stage performance and how to become a professional recording artist.

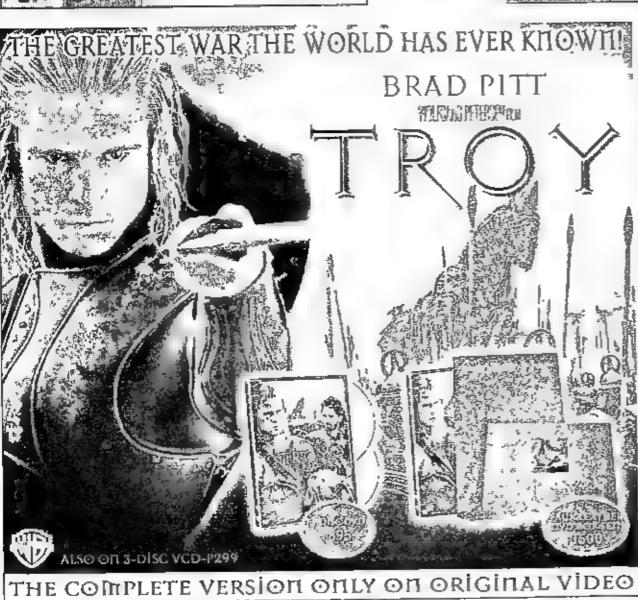
Enrollment is on Oct. 17-24. Classes start on Oct. 25

The school is located at 117-A S. Macaya St. in Barangay Pasong Tamo in Tandang Sora, PMTS manager, at 4540078.

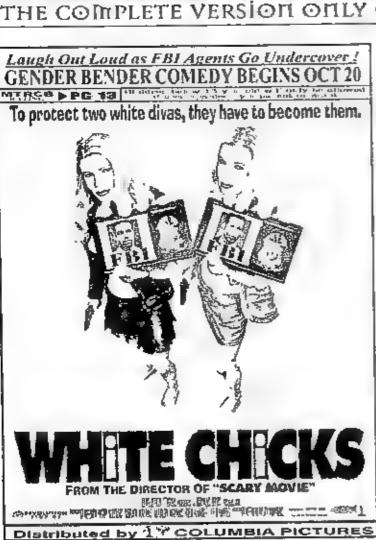
The PMTS Voice Development course lasts 30 sessions, with a 35percent discount on furtion

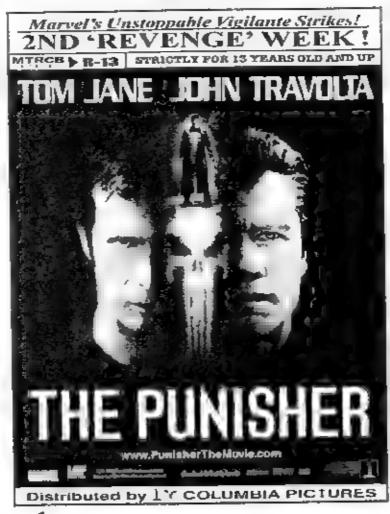
Among the products of PMTS are Lindsay Custodio of Star Records, Ynez Veneracion, Michelie Reyes, Marissa, 1987 Bulilit Tanghalan ng Kampeon's Ma. Arleen Cagas.

For details, call Loue Ledona,











ENTERTAINMENT

Troy' on DVD, VCD

Warner Home Video

The two-disc DVD stars an Alist east, including Academy Award-nominated Brad Pitt Award-nominated Brad Pitt ("Ocean's Eleven," "Fight Club"), Eric Bana ("Hulk," "Black Hawk Down"), Orlando Bloom ("The Lord of the Rings," "Pirates of the Caribbean"), Brian Cox ("The Bourne Identity," "The Ring"), Sean Bean ("Lord of the Rings" trilogy, "The Big Empty"), Brendan Gleeson ("Cold Mountain." dan Gleeson ("Cold Mountain,"

THIS October, the larger-than-life "Gangs of New York"), and anoth-epic adventure "Troy" becomes er Academy Award nominee, Peavailable on DVD and VCD from ter O'Toole ("Reindeer Games") and directed by Wolfgang Petersen ("The Perfect Storm," "Outbreak").

The DVD bonus includes a spectacular behind the scenes featurette, "In the Thick of the Battle," that shows the creation of Troy's epic battle sequences, and "Troy: An Effects Odyssey" that reveals the secrets of Troy's mesmerizing visual and sound effects.

"Troy" will be available at P299 on VCD and P895 on



MTRCB PG-13 PARENTS ARE ADVISED OF SOME BATTLE SCENES THAT RATING PG-13 MAYBE INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN BELOW 8 YAS OLD.



DISTRIBUTED BY WARNER BROS, PICTURES





ERIK Santos

New Erik hit

NEW PRINCE of pop Erik Santos has just released his second single, "Di Ko Kaya," quickly following his debut album's hit carrier single, "Pag-bigyang Mull," which has been No. 1 on DWRR's hit charts for 22 weeks.

"Di Ko Kaya" is also unshakeable in the No. 2 slot of the same countdown and has been there for four weeks now.

Both songs are included in Enk's first solo albam, "This is the Moment," from rar Kecoros.

Prior to this, Erik ruled the airwaves with hits like "I Believe I Can Fly" and his winning song, This is the Moment," both included in the "Star in a Million* repackaged album.

"Di Ko Kaya" was composed by Vehnee Saturno and arranged by Elmer Blancaflor, It speaks of how far a man would go to prove to his girl that she's his one and only love.

Also released simultaneously with "Di Ko Kaya" is the music video of the song, directed by Connie Macatuno, who also directed the music video of *Pagbigyang Muli."

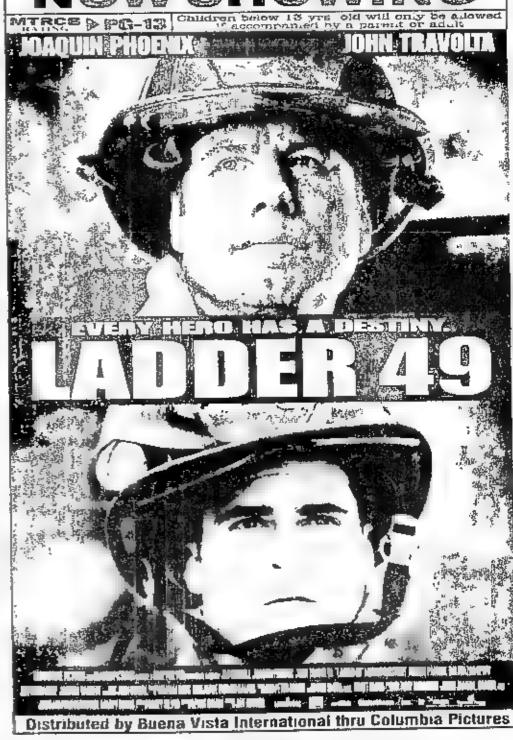
The music video was shot entirely at the Sanctuario Spa ın Malate, Manila, with Dennis Magno as production designer.

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Sunday DIZ

Business Features Editor Margle Quimpo-Espino

'Think before you buy, don't sacrifice quality for price'

By Amy R. Remo

THE SPATE of fuel price increases, transport fare hikes and looming price increases in basic commodities, leaves no room for the Filipino consumer to squander his hard-earned pesos for things that are overpriced and of inferior quality.

"Think before you buy, But never, ever sacrifice quality for price," stresses Josie Alitagtag, senior trade and industry specialist, in a recent talk during the 4th Consumer Trade Fair held at SM Megamall. The fair is part of the Trade and Industry Department's celebration of the Consumer Wel-

Established in 1997, the CWM ing industries.

empower Pilipino consumers is advocating and protecting their to educate them "A mature, interests. well-informed and vigilant consumer is the best protected con-

Although the DTI has launched aims to pay tribute to the signifi- several consumer protection procant role consumers play in mov- jects and impremented pro-consumer policies, the consumers al-Alitagtag says the best way to so have to take an active part in

> Alltagtag says that despite the agency's aggressive efforts to pro-

Good investment opportunities at Bonifacio Triangle

Bonifacio Triangle, the latest phase of Sonitacio Globei City to be made available to the public, represents a good investment for various compelling reasons. Lot sales have been brisk and buyers cite the following benefits of the project.

Prime Location - Situated within Bonifacio Global City, the site is just minutes away from the Makat Centra, Business District and the Ortigas Center

Reputable Developere - Bonifacio Triangle benefits from the wealth of experience and track record of Ayala Land, Inc. and Greenfleid Development Corp., principal shareholders of FBDC.

Superior Quality - The masterplan, intrastructure and utility systems at Bonifacto

Global City are of the highest standards in the country. Pleasant Vicinity - Sonifacio Triangle is

located next to prestigious international schools such as the Japanese School, British School and International School of Manua. Greater Accessibility - The site is located along Kalayaan Avenue, allowing direct access from the business district to EDSA

and C-5. Manila's main thoroughfares. Mixed-Use Zoning - All lots provide the buyer with various development options including residential, office and retail uses. Attractive Lot Sizes - The lots at Bonlfacio Triangle range from 950 to 1,273 square meters, allowing the buyer great flexibility in design and structure. In addition, a buyer can choose to consolidate lots should be desire a

Property Management - Bonifecto Globa: City is managed by Bonifacio Estates Services Corp. under the oversight of Ayela Property Management Corp. This

with terms of up to 5 years.

arrangement assures locators that the City will remain wall maintained in the years to Value for Money - Offering prime lots at

alfordable prices, Bondacio Triangle provides good value for money. Multiple Payment Options - Buyers may opt to pay in cash or avail of in-house financing

For more information, call 818-3601 or 848 5000. Email: sales@fbglobalcity.com or go to: www.fbgiobatcity.com

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Sunday BIZ

Verbal precision: Not the exclusive domain of writers

The New Hork Times



BY THE WHITERS AND EDITORS OF THE MOST AUTHORITATIVE NEWSPAPER

"The New York Times Manual of Style and Usage" By Allan M. Stegal and William G.

Three Rivers Press,

Connolly

By Dante M. Velasco Contributor

SPEAKING of style, a writer said: "If you strive at precision, you arrive at style."

Those who struggle with achieving character in their writing will find the just-quoted statement useful. It affirms an aphorism that "style is the man."

After all, when you express your-self in writing, the way you truly think and feel, you arrive at your awn "umque voice"-or style.

the right expression is pure pleasure. "All the fun's in how you say a thing," he said.

You will know a writer even at a young age if he or she is sensitive to that "turn of phrase." Or if he struggles to get the precise word or even to use a symbol—to communicate.

Those who use a language, my high school English teacher told us then, must accord it the highest respect—by using only the precise word or phrase, by mastering syntax and

evolution of usage.

Do you think this is only for creative writers or journalists? Having a style-arrived at precision in language is as important in the board rooms, in executive suites, and in halls when one is giving a speech or making a presentation. imagine a language without rules. Then

you would not know the past tense from the present tense. You could EXECUTIVE not distinguish between the cause and the effect.

Writerly style is a set of tools and Poet Robert Frost reveals that the search for tricks, a tone of voice," say Allan M. Siegal and William Connolly, authors of the book "The New York Times Manual of Style and Usage."

This book is supposed to be the "rule book" of the reporters of the Times, and yet it might as well be an executive's handbook on word choices, rules of grammar, and on names or abbreviations.

Every major publication, including the Incomea, has a style book which orients reporters and editors on the style and character

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grammar, and by being ever sensitive to the of that publication. Preparing a style book is a choice—since the dictionary gives us some latitude in choosing which word to use.

Will you use "behavior" or "behaviour"? Is your gender sensitivity expressed in your decision to drop "chairman" in favor of the neutral "chairperson"? Such a choice, however, could become troublesome, if one smart aleck will tell you that, if you bring it to its logical conclusion, "manhole" becomes "person-hole," "man" the organization would be "person" the organization," and so on and so forth.

The Times remains traditional, assert the authors. "This manual reflects The Times' impression of its educated and sophisticated readership-traditional but not tradition-

It thus means that companies could also come up with their style book, so that every executive, manager and secretary can hew in easily into one dimension of corporate char-

For instance, the manual says, "caddie" is for golf, while "caddy" is for tea. Golfers, as you take note of your score, remember this distinction. What about "hopefully" as a word? You read this in many memos and even e-mail. What does the manual say?

The book discusses options in using the word, thus: "In the sense of let us hope, this adverb inflames passions. Widely heard in speech, it is also approved by most dictionaries and usage manuals. Grammarians equate that usage to universally accepted constructions with frankly and mercifully. But traditionalists insist that hopefully can be used only to mean in a hopeful manner."

Then the stylebook rules on usage for The Times. "Writers and editors unwilling to irritate readers would be wise to write they hope or with luck. Not hopefully, please."

Just to show you that this is not only for journalists, listen to this discussion on a choice between chairperson or chairwoman. The stylebook rules: "Do not use chairlay or chairperson."

What about chair? The stylebook says: "As a noun, it can mean an endowed professorship, or a position in an orchestra."

This firm advice is illuminating: "Do not use chair to mean chairman or chairwoman." Well, they are The Times, you say-and yet it's good to know how publications differ in

What about this? In school, we frowned on the cheater-he who manages to get a "leakage" or one who has written everything on its hidden skin. What does the stylebook say? "Use cheat, not cheater, for a person who

This 371-page book has more than 3,000 words, phrases and abbreviations that will thus enable any Times reporter to "be tidy" in his stories. In a manner of speaking, this "tidiness," this respect for the art of expression is not the exclusive domain of journalists.

You may not agree with all the choices of The Times, but you will appreciate the care, the scrupulousness, and the paper's commitment to verbal precision.

Actually, this is not just a manual. Leafing through the pages introduces you to the wit, gift of expression and breadth of experience of the authors.

It's like eavesdropping on the editors of The Times advising a young reporter how to clean up his news story. It's the next best thing to being in the newsroom of this respected newspaper worldwide. (dantemvelasco@yahoo.com)

tect the consumer, it is sometimes rendered helpless because the problem already lies with the consumers themselves.

"For one, the problem with some Filipinos is that they are too shy to ask," says Alitagtag. "Don't be ashamed to ask about a product, especially those that are potentially harmful or damaging to your body."

In the same manner, some Filipinos are too shy or lazy to report a complaint. There are those who simply don't care at all. If no consumer dares to air his concerns, then no solution can be expected from the agency, explains Alitagtag.

Others, Alitagtag adds, don't bother to read labels, instructions and the fine print.

There are those, according to Alitagtag, who have the impulsive, "sige no aga" attitude when buying, only to realize later on that he doesn't really need the product. He can only ask himself then, "Bakit ko nga bırılli 'to?" (Why did I buy this?)

Some consumers would feel they have been unwittingly coerced in buying product because they were "ganged up" by three or four gushing sales people, who claim the product to be perfect for them.

It is for these reasons, according to Alitagtag, that they conduct seminars from time to time to inform and remind people of their rights and responsibilities as wise, conscientious consumers.

She adds that a lot of consumers seem to have forgotten that they do have rights. Others, simply take them for granted.

These consumer rights are means of protection from manufacturers who take advantage of certain "too trusting" con-

There are eight basic consumer rights, which include the right to:

Basic needs. One should not be denied of his right to guaranteed survival through adequate provision of food, clothing, shelter, health care, education and sanstation.

THINK/ 63

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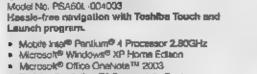
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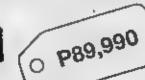
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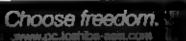
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MOBILE

TECHNOLOGY

Timex celebrates 150th year in Cebu



TIMEX employees strain to catch a glimpse of their idols.

By Beia B. Formoso Continbutor

TIMEX, the American watch brand famous the world over for its price, quality and innovations in time-telling, celebrated its 150th anniversary this year at its biggest factory, the TMX Philip-pines plant in Mactan, Cebu.

The 24-year-old plant located in the Mactan Export Processing Zone in Lapu Lapu City covers nine hectares and employs about 3,000 Filipinos, who are responsible for the manufacture of 95 percent of all Timex watches and a number of other brands that the company supplies.

For all their hard work, the factory workers were given a treat for the celebration: a visit from local celebrities and Times endorsers Piolo Pascual, Claudine Barretto and Marc Nelson.

The stars have been endorsers of the global brand for two years now, and a new as campaign featuring raunchy poses and sensual images of them taken by photographer Tom Epperson is rumored to be coming out very soon.

They toured the plant and even stopped for a few lessons on watch-making from some lucky

factory workers. The employees were clearly prepared for the big day, with many of them holding up streamers and pictures of their idols. A raffle had been held beforehand for picture-taking with the stars.

Timex's factory workers are women because their delicate hands are needed for precision. The endorsers were presented

Prolo sang to the delight of the

crowd, which was composed

mostly of females as majority of

with the new Perpetual Calendar watch, another Timex technological breakthrough The watch keeps track of the

day/date/month and year for you, even adjusting for leap years, and will do so for seven years straight till it is time to replace the battery, which Timex will do for free.

This is a new addition to a lineup of technologies that Timex is recognized for: Indigo Night Light, Compass, Datalink Organizer (Microsoft software that allows you to store information in the watch) and BodyLink, a sport performance-monitoring system, among others.

Having been in the time-telling business for 150 years, Timex has come a long way since it began as the Waterbury Clock Co. in 1854 in Connecticut, US, when it made pocket watches.

The name was changed to Timex after World War II with the production of the first line of wristwatches for men.

Known as the all-American watch, Timex is the top brand in the United States and Canada and can be found on the wrists of US presidents as a show of patrio-

'Think before you buy, don't sacrifice quality for price

Safety Refers to one's right to be protected against the marketing of or provision of goods and services that are hazardous to health and life

Information. Pertains to right to be protected against dishonest or misleading advertising or labeling, as well as the right to be provided with facts and information essential to making a wise choice.

Choice. Refers to right to choose products at competitive prices with an assurance of satisfactory quality.

Representation. This is the right to express consumer interests and having a voice in the making and execution of government policies through public meetings.

Redress. Pertains to one's right to be compensated for misinterpretation, shoddy goods or unsatisfactory services.

Consumer education. This is the right to acquire knowledge and skills necessary to be an informed consumer.

Healthy environment. Refers to one's right to live and work in an environment which is neither threatening nor dangerous, and which permits a life of dignity and well-being.

Alltagtag was quick to add, however, that every right is coupied with a responsibility.

For a consumer to fully enjoy his rights, he also has to fulfill certain obligations, not only for his own well-being, but also for the others.

5 Consumer responsibilities

Critical awareness, Refers to one's responsibility to be more alert and inquisitive about the price, quality and use of goods and services.

Action. Each consumer has to adopt an active stance. He has to assert and act to ensure that he gets a fair deal. If one remains a passive consumer, he will continue to be exploited.

Social concern. One also has

to be always aware of the impact of his consumption on other citizens, especially the disadvantaged or powerless groups, whether in the local, national or international community. It is for this reason that hoarding and panic-buying are highly discouraged by DT1.

Environmental awareness. Refers to the responsibility to understand the environmental consequences of our consumption. One should recognize the individual and social responsibility to conserve natural resources and protect the earth for future gener-

Solidarity. It is also important that consumers organize together to develop strength and influence in order to better advocate and protect consumer interest.

Aliragiag adds that an intelligent consumer makes a wise choice by asking himself some of these questions:

 Do I really need it or can I do without it? Can I afford it?

• Is the quality acceptable?

. Is the price fair or is there a cheaper substitute of the same quality? · Does the label give all the in-

formation I need?

 Does it have nutritional value? How will it affect my hearth?

To further advocate consumer interests, DTI has established ConsumerNET to increase the awareness of consumers that there are agencies, other than the DTI, who can more aptly address particular complaints.

ConsumerNET forms a network of 26 government agencies and 11 local government unus in Metro Manila. These agencies can provide redress based on their respective mandates under the provisions of the Consumer Act. (See table in Page B1 for list of agencies, their contact numbers and areas of responsibility).

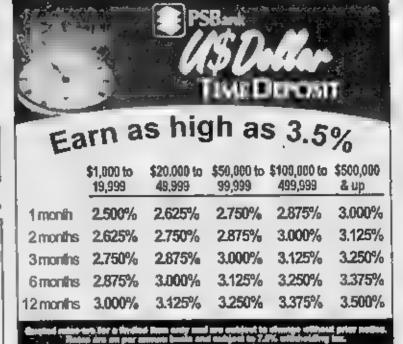
Established in 1996, ConsumerNET also alms to provide speedy resolution of consumer complaints and facilitate a smooth flow of consumer protection information.

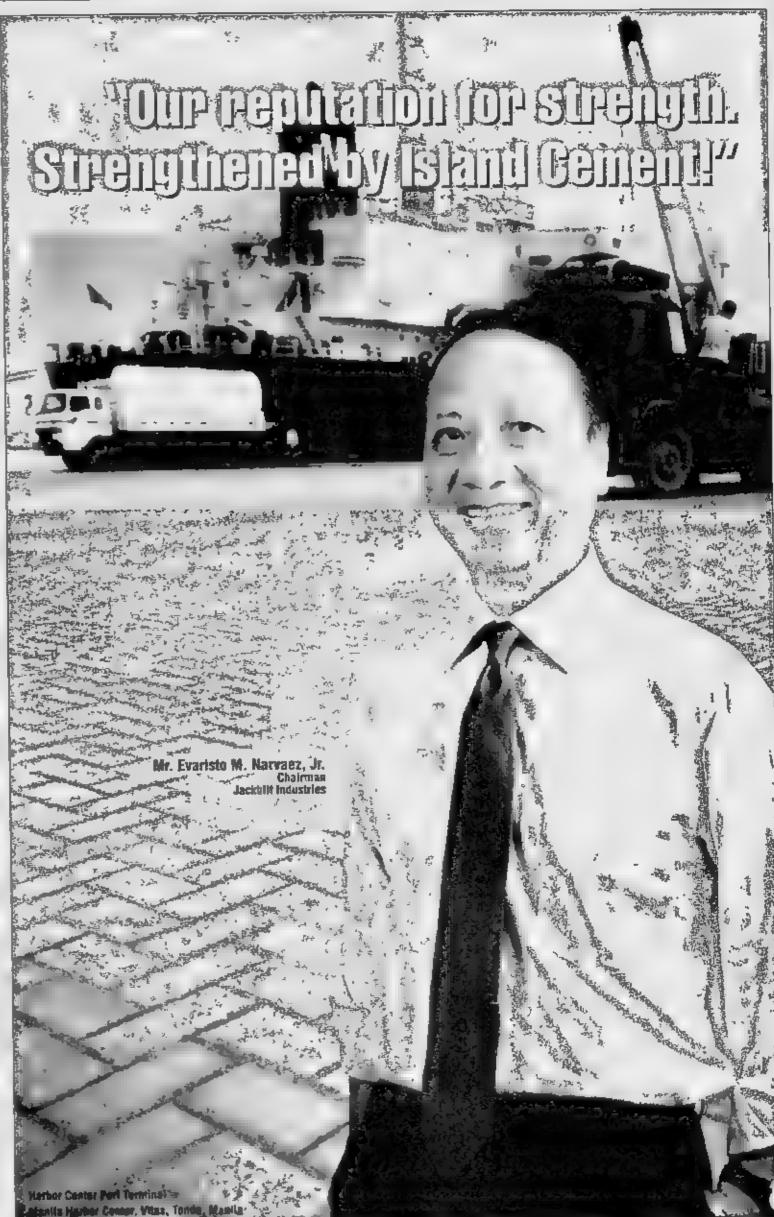


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Sunday BIZ.

Sea grass makes village folk's lives a little better

By Joyce Mejillano PDI Southern Luxon Bureau

LIBON, Albay—Ten years ago families in this sleepy village depended on their meager income from farming for survival and could hardly send their children to school.

Today, most of the about 2,000 villagers send their kids to school, and were able to build decent homes made of concrete.

The sea grass, locally called ragiwriw or agas has transformed the people of Barangay Bulusan from a struggling people to village folks who have built a name in the world of handicraft here and abroad.

Weaving

Weaving the sea grass into household products is not new to the residents.

Ma. Nenita Sevilla, Bulusan Handicraft Producers Association, (Bulhapa) president, says sea grass weaving has been the source of livelihood of their parents.

But it was not properly recognized and there was no specific or stable market for it. They just made sea grass products for local buyers and in minimal volume.

Until the Manila-based Community Crafts Association of the Philippines found the local weavers. Suggesting there is a big during wer season, when the soil is sun-dried for about two days,

potential market for sea grass products, the CCAP encouraged them to group themselves together into an organization so they would have an identity.

The Bulhapa was born with 31 members in 1994. It was registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission in 1996.

Mostly women, members were taught by the CCAP how to enhance their products. The CCAP also looked for possible markets here and outside the country.

Bulhapa's products have reached different parts of the world-in America, Europe, Austrains and other Asian countries through exporters in Metro Maniia. Its members have buyers in the region and some parts of the country.

Their products range from bags, boxes and others, depending on the orders of their customers. The sea grass used by the organization usually comes from Libon and other places like Legazpi, Somogon and even Camarines Sur

Contrary to what its name implies, sea grass here grows in ricefields, although there is another kind that really thrives near the

The grass is usually harvested



PHOTOS BY ACRIMIC LORSOFOIS OUTHERN LUZON BUREAL

still soft and wet. The best time to then sprinkled with water. harvest, according to Sevilla, is June to July, although the grass keeps on growing throughout the year.

The grass is as stiff as wire during hot season, that's why we can't harvest it at that time because it is not suitable for weaving. The leaves are rough during that season," she says.

After harvesting, the grass is

After this, the materials are now ready for the weaving process, according to the desired output.

The Department of Labor and Employment and the Department of Trade and Industry gave Bulhaps treatment facilities to prevent growth of molds

The Bulhapa members design their products but recently, CCAP

sent a designer from the US to teach them how to improve the designs.

Benefits

The industry gave them lots of benefits, according to Sevilla.

Most workers of Bulhapa earn an average daily income of P200 and they work in the comfort of their own houses.

Girlie Lunas, the treasurer of the cooperative, says the industry uplifted their lives. Her juds already know how to weave and help her when they don't have

In Barangay Bulusan, almost every able member of the family knows the process of weaving al-

Bulusan is not the only barangay in Libon benefiting from the

Encouraged by the success in Barangay Bulusan, CCAP also or-

ganized weavers in Barangay Del Rosano, also in Libon, which produce the same products.

Prospects

With a gross income of some P500,000 in 2003, Bulhapa members hope to cash in further on the sea grass products.

Sevilla says in preparation for the advent of voluminous orders, they are thinking of expanding their organization and will wel-

come members from other places. Some of the officers of Bulhapa are being sent to other places in the country to teach the technology whenever they are invited by

some agencies like the DTI and the CCAP .tself. They are also being invited to

different trade fairs in the country. On Oct. 20, they will participare in the Orgullo kan Bicol Trade Fair at the SM Megamali.

The DTI Albay office, which gives regular training to the organization, says the sea grass industry is thriving well amid crisis in the handicraft market nowadays.

Cielito Julio, DTI-Albay trade and industry specialist, says they aim to give the Bulhapa direct access to foreign markets.

"Hopefully, through participation in trade fairs and exhibits, they will be able to get foreign clients so they can market directly to foreign countries," she says

The association, Sevilla says, is getting fair support from the .ocal government of Libon in terms of promotion. But she says they are now lobbying for the establishment of even a small drying plant where they could dry their products, especially during rainy seasan so they could still have better produce even on rainy days.

"We also lack warehouse where we could keep the sea grass after harvest," she says.

Providing opportunities for buyers and sellers

HUSBAND and wife Joey and Dina Castro grew up privileged in the town of Marikina-scions of shoemaking industry pioneers.

Doey and I grew up with shoemakers. We were awed by their skills and aware of their of w plight as tradesmen whose earnings can barely sustain their family," said Dina, "Marikina's shoe industry has been on a downhill for years now. Especially after the market opened to cheap China-made shoes. That is why Joey and I decided to go into multi-level marketing as a venue for promoting and selling our very own line of Marikina-made shoes-crafted in the tradition of American style, European quality and Filipino functionality. Definitely far more durable than the cheap imports flooding the market."

The two set up JC Martin.

The move to revive the Mankina shoe industry was earlier started by First Quadrant in 2002. First Quadrant is a multi-level company that aims to provide a venue for Marikina shoe makers to showcase and sell their ware. Their product lines eventually expanded to include bags, apparel, cosmetics and fragrances.

Joey and Dina adopted a similar goal. As they helped the Marikina shoe industry they also got a boost from people on the lookout for income-generating activities. They made shoes and JC Martin people sold them at discounted dealer's price, Seizing a wider market reach and growth, JC Martin soon opened its doors to well-known suppliers like Fundador, Barbie, Timex and Homi Noodles.

"We also welcomed suppliers of soap and garments operating as cottage industries. We asked them for product presentations to gauge the quality of their products. And often it yielded amazing discoveries that we've added to JC Martin product lines. Our people buy by bulk at discounted prices and they re-

"Our company is serious on network building as well as brand building. We always emphasize to our agents that selling is as important as networking. They don't just stop at getting the P7,000 start-up package and focus on networking for which they earn P1,000 per recruit. We encourage them to focus on direct



JOEY and Dina Castro set up a multi- level marketing firm that taps various existing products sold by their agents at retail.

selling as well," Joey emphasizes.

JC Martin does not frontload-overpricing in the guise of discounted bulk rate. That way they can retail, say a pack of noodles at P3 or a bar of herbal soap at P22. And that's below the suggested retail price.

The name JC Martin comes from Juan de la Cruz and the saint, Martin de Porres. The couple feels their company provides opportunihes for people from all walks of life both as agent and as consumers.

JC Martin earned the Top Multilevel Marketing honors from the National Consumers

Tapping consumers who can't afford to pay cash

SONOMA Valley at a place in Califorma that is best known for its wine and wineries, rich land, peaceful setting, good climate, relaxing atmosphere and spectacular vistas of the region's natural resources.

Sonoma Valley is also the name of Manels venture into direct selling. The word "Sonoma" is a play with words. It is an acronym for "Son of Manels," which is how one can describe the new wholly owned subsidiary of Manels.

Manels (combined names of husband and wife founders Manuel Sz and Nelia Siggaoat) has made its products available through the direct selling channel since March. Its product line consists of genuine leather and man-made leather products such as shoes, bags, beits and small leather goods, Sondina also certies apparel for adults and children. Sonoma Valley has added new product lines to its pre-holiday catalog. These are sliver accessories (Trinkets and Treasures), food supplements (Biofit) (manufactured by Manels affiliate Siggart Pharmaceupcal Co.) as well as bed

linen and innerwear. Manels has been in the retail business for 40 years now. Its venture into direct selling is to reach out to customers who are not mall shoppers. Noel Siggaoat, vice president of Manels, explains: "Customers have an access to us through the mails and retail stores but there is another type malls (or if they visit malls, they more or less don't buy). They can be reached only by their associates, neighbors and by members of their stay-at-home housewives or factory workers who can't really make cash purchases, maybe because they



MANNY Siggaoat, CEO, Manels Group of Companies; Nelia Villarama-Siggaoat, president

iz so tightly budgeted. These people usually buy from their co-workers or their neighbors—on credit, or in installment schemes such as four gives, etc. So our dealers can service this kind of consumer because they often see them, and they will be able

to collect from them. " "Most of these people are really good payers, it's just that they don't have instant cash to purchase things. When they buy on credit, the payment is in installment so they can squeeze it into their budget, as it is only a portion of the whole amount. So we are targeting these people, we of consumer who does not go to are making "a trip" to their piace to reach out to them through the direct

selling method," Noel shares. Noel also noted that direct selling is very popular nowadays—the "in" community. These are usually the thing considering these times of financial difficulties, and of people wanting to put up their own businesses. He remarks, "There are a lot

whole cash amounts or their money but there are still many being put up. It is because the number of dealers keep increasing and they are in constant search of new products and credible brands which they can bring to their customers. So I can say that the direct selling industry here in our country is growing. The reason for its growth is because there's this trend of people going into business for themselves.

Direct seiling, according to Noel, offers limitless opportunities. For as low as a PS,000-10,000 investment, a dealer or a distributor can already get items from Sonoma Valley that they can sell to the other shops, in their own place or through door-todoor selling.

One advantage is that Sonoma Valley (as a direct seiling company) and Manels complement each other The success of direct selling is based on effort, pleasantness of the direct seller, the time spent, and the speed of sales. Hence, various incentives don't have the means to shell out of direct selling companies already, (and rebates) await the dealers.

These once and future brides know their business

By Giselle Goloy Contributor

AT HER wedding reception, Ning Barcelo-Tadena couldn't just smile and keep her poise, she was motioning to the waiters, giving instructions, pointing at something on the ceiling

Ning was doing her job, even on her wedding day!

She is one of the partners in Wedding Essentials (WE) Inc., a business she and some former high school classmates at St. Scholastica's College put up two years ago. The idea was inspired by a call for help from another

classmate. "She was asking for tips in organizing a weeding," recalls Chicky Hernandez, Wil president/GM. "I referred her to different suppliers and offered suggestions, just as a wedding planner would." Chicky then had five years' experience as events organuzer for a sports and leisure club in Makati.

Ning and Chicky's first client was, of course, another classmate, Joanna Crisologo-Belgica, who later became a partner. When they planned Joanna's wedding two years ago, however, it had not yet occurred to them to do it as a business venture.

"It was always a thought, just for fun. Our discussions never really crossed over to serious planning. But we had the contacts and knew what to do and how to do it," says Joanna, VP for finance.

"In a way, my wedding was the dry-run," says Ning, VP for marketing. But even at that point, they wouldn't consider the prospects. Making money was farthest from their minds, the satisfaction of having organized a friend's wedding was rewarding enough.

it was only when Chicky acquired a franchise outlet of The Swan Bake Shop (and Catering) that things started to fall into place,

"Our discussions became serious, as in registering a business/corporation name at SEC,



BRIDES-TO-BE and recent brides Cathy Pacia, Joanna Belgica, Chicky Hernandez, Ning Tadena make perfect partners in the wedding planning business.

money," says Chicky. "After many late-night meetings, we finally decided to make a go of it. The bakeshop would also be our office and showroom. It made sense that I would be managing the office/showroom and my baxeshop at the same time. After all, the bakeshop is a related business."

Four other friends joined the trio, Jols Balderian, Cathy Pacia,

putting up an office and investing. Trina Esta-Esmile, Roslyn Libuit. Most of them have had experience in events organizing, business administration, marketing, and one even owns a printing press.

They pooled their resources to raise a modest capital, which they spent for the construction, repairs, and refurbishing of their showroom/office, located at 1075-D Pasong Tamo St. corner Kalayaan Ave., Makati City. The extra mon-

ey was allocated for the overhead expenses they would incur for a whole year. They also set aside funds for marketing and licensing/documentation expenses.

Being all of the marrying age, they say, makes them perfect for the business. They even got the chance to practice their wedding planning skuls on two of the partners! Three of them are now married, with the wedding of two orgamized by the girls' own group.

But what exactly does a wedding planner do? Spare the bride and bridegroom of the nitty-gritty of preparing for their big day. He or she contacts the suppliers, looks for a venue, and makes sure that on the day itself, everything

will be picture-perfect. "All of us take part in the coordination on the wedding day itself. We rotate tasks at the dressup aite, church, reception," says Cathy, corporate secretary. "We're definitely hands-on,"

Wedding Essentials also orga-

nizes debuts, parties and special

Bur doesn't hiring event specialists entail extra expense? "We work around the clients' budget," replies Joanna.

"Weddings are now more creatively panned. Our generation would rather seek expert advice to make sure that plans are executed properly, down to the last detail," observes Chicky, "Most brides these days are busy, working women who don't have all the time to contact suppliers or check out venues suited to their wedding budget. That's why wedding coordinators have become a necessiry: they know exactly how to obtain resources, while working within a budget, to create a couple's dream wedding."

Well, I'm a geologist, and I dream of a wedding on Mount

"Get me the diameter of the crater and I'll tell you if I can fit a platform there," Chicky fires off, rising to my challenge.

Sunday BIZ

Tis better to have electric lights than candles burning in the dark

By Abigail L. Ho

SURE, it's better to light one little candle than to stumble in the dark (yes, that's borrowed from an old song). But isn't it so much better to have electric lights on instead of candles burning, no matter how far-flung one's home is?

Residents of a barangay in Toledo, Cebu, have just been givon the chance to savor the convenience of using electric light bulbs after having been used to using candles and kerosene lamps to light their homes during the dark hours of the day.

Mirant Philippines Corp., the local arm of Atlanta-based Mirant Corp. and the country's largest independent power producer, last month turned over to the government the 1,000th electrified barangay under its \$20-million (over PI billion) Barangay Electrification Assistance for Countrywide Develcoment (Project Beacon).

Project Beacon is considered the largest corporate social responsibility program undertaken by a single private corporation in the country.

Edgardo Bautista, Mirant Philippines president and chief executive, said the provision of electricity to remote areas in the country would help ensure that the quality of life of the people there would be greatly improved.

With electricity now at their disposal, he said local economies in far-flung Project Beacon beneficiary-parangays would be better developed, therefore expanding meome and livelihood opportunines for people there.

Since Project Beacon started last

ENERGY Secretary Vince Perez (right) and Mirant Philippines president Edgardo Bautista (left) signed a Memorandum of Agreement to energize an additional 500 barangays in the next two years as an extension of Project Beacon. Present at the event were (from left) Mirant Corp. CEO Marce Fuller, President Macapagal-Arroyo and Metrobank chair George Ty.

year, an estimated 1.5 million individuals in 33 provinces nationwide had already benefited from the rurai electrification program, he said.

Electricity for millions

"More than providing electricity to our countrymen in some of the remotest barangays in the country, Project Beacon hopes to serve as a catalyst for the private sector to do more in heaping the government address the needs of the country, particularly at this point of great need. It's our small way of helping address the country's fiscal problem," he said.

Under the program, Mirant installed a total of 11,963 kilometers of distribution lines, more than enough for a one-way inp from Manila to Los Angeles, employing 2,325 workers in the process.

Project Beacon was undertaken in cooperation with the Depertment of Energy, National

Electrification Administration, various local government units

and electric cooperatives. This rural electrification project is Mirant's contribution to the DOE's "O-llaw" Program, a multi-sectoral approach to bring electricity to 100 percent of the population by 2006.

"I have to thank M.rant for that huge, huge investment. You have put not investment in the sense of your ordinary power project, but investment you have put in human development by making all those barangay electrification projects," President Macapagal-Arroyo said of the program.

Going for more

After having formally turned over its 1,000th energized barangay to the government last month, Mirant immediately started fulfilling another commitment to provide electricity to another 500 barangays in the next two years.

This, Bautista said, served as a continuation of Mirant's support for the government's rural electrification program.

True to the vision of Project Beacon, Mirant's additional efforts to provide electricity to more "powerless' villages all over the country has the end in mind of uplifting the quality of life of residents there.

The Project Beacon experience showed that the presence of electricity in the beneficiary-barangays enabled residents to explore more livelihood opportunities.

For example, upon energiza-tion, some barangays put up stores selling frozen foods. Due the absence of electricity before, this was impossible to do.

Pishermen are now also able to extend the freshness of their catch due to the availability of electric freezers. They can also now build their own boats.

Farmers, on the other hand, can turn on pumps to irrigate their lands, giving them the opportunity to grow more crops.

Education is likewise improved in the Project Beacon beneficiarybarangays as some schools there, around 600 of then in all nationwide, now have computer education as part of their curriculum

The time spent for educational activities has also been extended as both students and teachers can now do their assignments and paperwork well into the night due to the presence of electric lights.

More than 3,000 jobs were also created after the energization of 1,000 barangays as industries sprouted in remote areas where there used to be little economic activity.

Engineer takes care of own need, ends up with a venture

APEXUS owner Terry Villas says enjoying and loving your business is

By Madonna T. Virola PDI Southern Luxon Bureau

CITY OF CALAPAN-Terry Villas, 40. was greatly discouraged by some members of his family and friends when he, a mining engineer, went into entrepreneurship and pioneered the manufacture of compact (small) sleeping bags

"Instead, I kept the thought that one day, they could borrow money from me," said Vilias.

nationwide.

His major products, under brand name Apexus, consist of tents of eight to 10 designs, which are mostly technical (mountgineering) tents and some camping tents.

Apexus is supplying more than 30 stores or branches nationwide. Its products are seen during trade fairs at SM Megamall.

Apexus was first tried to be registered as Apex with the Department of Trade and Industry in 1994.

Since Apex had become a common name, Villas, a mountaineer, added the suffix us, connoting "the mountain."

Of export quality, prices of sleeping bags range from P700 to P1,400; P3,400- P6,500 for tents; and from a few pesos to P750 for accessories like backpack covers, thermal blankets and stuff sacks, and neck wallets, among other items.

Since 1993, Vidas started manufacturing sleeping bags and distributed them among friends who own mountaineering shops in Manila until his products reached other stores in the Visayas and Mindanao.

Gradually, sleeping bugs expanded to other products, specifi-

Board topnotcher

Born in Barangay Ibaba (dubbed as "Little Tondo") here, Villas finished mining engineering at the Adamson University and landed in too 10 in the board exams.

"Since childhood, I really wanted to be an engineer or a scientist," he says.

His father influenced him to pursue mining engineering. "I really like numbers," Villas claims.

His mother worked at the Bureau of Lands for 40 years and for more than 30 years, his father was into fishing.

After graduation, Villas worked in a private mining firm in Samar then for five years at the Mines and Geosciences Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

He then worked for about one and a half years in the Technology and Livelihood Resource Center evaluating, preparing and financing export-oriented small and medium-scale avelihood projects.

"TLRC helps a lot in building confidence among those who want to go into business. Here you are exposed to real people involved in the business.

successes," says Villas.

Inspiration

"Nobody in the family is intobusiness. Most are teachers and government employees," says VII-

Even his inspiration, grandfather Simplicio, over 100 years old now, was against business. A cousin of Villas told him of his grandfather's bias against the honesty of those into business.

Even as a young child, Villas admits, he was also turned off with Filipino-Chinese businessmen.

His grandfather did not finish school. "But until the latter years of his life, we saw him reading some stuff, books and the Bible." Vidag had so much respect for hìm.

"Has conviction, true to people, respected in the community and with Incomparable wisdom, maybe better than some Ph.D. holders," he describes his grandfather.

Villas says he experienced his first job at 7 or 8 years old when he

would gather coconuts and got paid per piece of per thousand pieces at the existing rate then, plus bonus of more than than the usual rate at the end of the summer season. "I learned the value of work."

At the end of summer, he got his pay of P10 or more, a big amount then for his age.

Villas pursued a Masters in Business Administration at the De la Saile University in Manila, Then he established his present business, despite heavy objections.

He did three simultaneous businesses: First, he farmed organically the four hectares in Barangay Biga here, which he borrowed from his parents. He was laughed at as he was doing retailing.

Second was Japanese food. Villas would buy buying sea urchin from fishers here, process them and sell to Manda. It didn't last for one year as supply was amited.

Third was the siceping bags. "I started with this in 1993 because there was none suitable for mountaineers. What was available then was a bulky sleeping bag not suitable for mountaineering When I med to buy a mountaineering sleeping bag, I was reguired a reservation of one month before delivery in Manila from a very rare mountaineering shop, Villas relates.

He decided he would rather produce one. He didn't particularly target mountaineering yet, though he was a mountaineer.

Villas decided to focus on a business because he wanted to settle down with Desiree, a lass from Negros. So he borrowed P12,000 from the Government Service Insurance System.

He pooled all his resources. Even for only 10 orders, he would go to Calapan to take care of his market.

On Sept. 30, 1993, his mother died. She was supposed to support Villas' business through her retirement benefit.

This time, his "would-be" capital became the family's money. He availed of Kaiakalan 20 (Orbos Law). He was granted tax exemption under Kalakalan 20, patterned after the Italian experience to encourage small entrepreneurs.

Enjoying the business

Villas, being a mountaineer, knows the nitty gritty of business and has the mountaineers for his market

"It's important that you are happy with what you are doing. Enjoying and loving your business is the key," he says, stressing that it is his hobby.

He says learning through experience is slow and the fastest is through education. After his MBA in La Salle, his production and marketing became more efficient.

There are various problems and headaches in the business. You learn their failures and Anticipation helps, he says.

"My purpose was to produce reasonably priced quanty producis. We can compete with Northface in America in terms of quality but with 30-percent less in price," Villas boasts.

He combines local materials with imported ones.

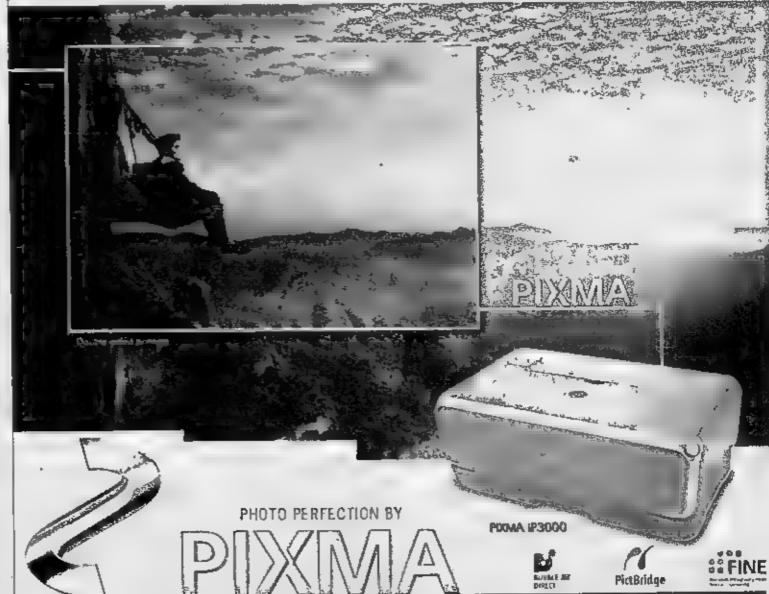
Lean season, June to August, does not worry him much because he has a steady market. Among his clients are sporting shops like Toby's, Christy sports, storeshops and specialty mountaineering shops nationwide.

His strategy is to come up with several models. "I welcome compethion, it improves my business."

His friends now jokes of him as a "capitalust," "But I'm willing to share my knowledge, except trade secrets."

While his products are of export quality, Villas said he'd first saturate the local market. He believes that "Going into export is really good, especially in the prof-Itability aspect. As far as Apexus is concerned, not yet."

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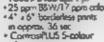
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Science of nutritional immunology present in every E. Excel product

Chen, examines the significant relationship of nutrition and the immine clean up the battlefield system. It focuses on preventing diseases through proper nourishment of wholesome, natural plant foods.

According to the science of nutritiona, immunology, when the body is deprived of essential nutrients, the immune system is weakened and loses its ability to defend against illness. However, when functioning properly, the immune system has the ability to combat disease and even overcome the constant attacks of environmental pollutants and toxins, which we face in our daily lives.

The human immune system is like an army protecting our bodies from foreign invaders. Without the immune system, the body would not be able to defend itself against disease and filness. It consists of monocytes, which act as sentinels; antibodies; natural killer cells; cytotoxic T-cells,

THE SCIENCE of nutritional im- which act as artillery; helper and with other plant food sources, munology founded by Dr. Jau-Fei suppressor T-cells, which sound the alarm; and macrophages; which

Unfortunately, many of us assume that if we do not exhibit visible signs of illness, we are healthy-an assumption that is often incorrect. Most diseases are present in the body long before they give any outward manifestations and are associated with a malfunctioning of the immune system. Therein lies the importance of strengthening the immune system through proper nutrition.

To obtain the necessary nutrients to keep the immune system funccioning optimally, natural, wholesome plants contribute to excellent health and proper nutrition. Plant foods not only provide a complete supply of nutrients, they also promote cleansing, allowing the body to rid uself of barmful toxins. Every plant food has a specific nutritional value and must be supplemented

which, when combined, perform synergistically within the body systems to achieve nutritional balance and overall health.

E. Excel International takes all the necessary steps to retain a careful balance of nutrients in every plant. The company does not simply isolate specific nutrients, instead it uses only whole plant foods with a proper balance of nutrients to create an unsurpassed line of Nutritional Immunology products. It is now one of the finest health manufacturers in the world with offices in the United States and Canada, Singapore, Melaysia, Taiwan, Korea, the Philippines, Thailand, Hong Kong, China and many other countries in Europe. For inquiries on E. Excel products and the science of nutritional immunology, you may visit its offices at the 24th floor Rufino Pacific Tower, Ayala Avenue, Makati City or call tel. no. 811-0837 to 44.



UPLEASED VERY CONTRACT OF THE PARTIES OF THE PARTIE

BPI Family Savings Bank partners with BMW Phils by offering select clients the rare opportunity to experience the excitement and satisfaction. of driving the coveted BMW automobile series via a 24-hour test drive. Afterwards, the BPI clients are presented with generous trade-in offers and preferential rates to eventually own their own

BMW through 8P1's Autoloan program. Forming the partnership contract are 8PI Farmiy Savings Bank president Alfonso Salcado Jr and BMW Philis president Dr. Joerg Brever. Also present to witness the contract signing are BPI Family Savings Bank vice president Butch Ramos and Dickle Soriano of BCD Pinpoint

Tony Galvez School of Cosmetology accepts enrollment for 2nd semester

ENROLLMENT for second semester is going on dent has to master the technical basics and sciat The Tony Galvez School of Cosmetology. The school offers hair and beauty courses such as six-month basic cosmetology, one-month hair cutting course, one-on-one modular training on selected skills from make-up, rebonding, facials, manicure/pedicure, hairstyling, hair coloring, foot and body sps.

Specialization is also being offered like the two-year Hair Specialization course, and the One-year Cosmetology course. These two specialization courses offers academics subject in Applied Chemistry, Salon Management, internship, and seminars to enable the students to practice more and keep abreast with the current trends in international hair and beauty scene. The curriculum is perfectly studied to make sure everything is balanced and immaculate. After completion of the course, the students are allowed to take a trade test at Tesda to get the Certificate of Competency which the school's strict implementation of the Tesda requirement to pass the trade test examination so that the graduates will be recognized by the

Cosmetology is not just fashion and taste. It requires a lot of study and training. The stuentific facts of hair and beauty practice. Cosmetology is not for manpower training or out of school youths. It is a science that requires understanding both in the science and craft, the physical and chemical behavior and the laws and principles of Cosmetology.

It is the fervent desire of the school to elevate the cosmetology education into a higher level. With the modified curriculum, the Tony Galvez School of Cosmetology offers a broader education to give the students a better chance to enthusiastically explore different avenues of Cosmetology, Unlike other school offering cosmetology, the Tony Galvez School of Cosmetology do not accept under high school graduate. Entry requirement for enrollees must be a high school graduate, Also accepts scholarship to the less fortunate high school graduates, 16 to 22 years old, good moral character and has a keen interest to become a professional hair and beauty practitioner. It has international affiliations and send graduates abroad.

For inquiries and other information, please call Lourdes Co at rel mos. 912 5930, 913-4370 or email at egalver 117@yahoo.com or visit at tonygalvez.com.pli



MUNTINLUPA LIONS CLUB MEDICAL DENTAL MISSION

SETTING UP A MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTION BUSINESS WITH MTCA

MTC Academy, the country's premier medical transcription ed-

reation provider recently held the first seminar on "How to Sel

entrepreneurs and professionals (both medical and non-medi-

cal) who are looking into the vast potential of the medical transcription business, topics included the global outlook on medi-

Up Your Own Medical Transcription Business, Designed for

cal transcription, common pitialls of running a medical tran-

Shown is the president of Muntintupa Lions Club, Leonora Suva with her officers and members, awarding a certificate of appreciation to the homeowners of Katarungan Village, NBP Mentiniupa City, for their support in the medical and dental projects held at Katarungan Village last July 31

scription business, its capital management, technology and

HR requirements and other related topics essential in leading a

successful medical transcription business. Photo shows MT-

CA president Eugenio Gonzalez (seated, first from left) and of-

ficers with the participants. For inquiries, please contact Eve-

lyn or Aurora at ter nos. 890-7372 or 890-7319 local 811 or

email at admin@mtcacademy.com.



VENTURES 7 BAZAAR

The energetic ladles of Venture 7 are Inviting everyone to their Christmas Bazaar on Oct. 24 and Dec. 5 at the Ballroom of the Intercon Hotel from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. A dozen apples will be given away for every 100th quest. Some of their beneficiaries are Maicabata Foundation, Mahaveer Foundation (free artificial legs), Canter for Migrant

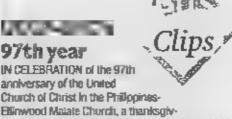
Youth and scholarships for deserving students. Shown during their planning session are: (front row) Fortune Ladesma and Celine Bautista; (2nd row) chairperson Fanny Blanco, Chit Gohu and unda Villadelgado; (3rd row) Lita. Gelano and Pille Aquino. Those who are interested to join the Dec. 5 bazaar may call 810-3307, 372-3083



KELLOGG'S SCHOOL TOUR

Kellogg's, one of the leading careal brands in the country, is currently making their rounds of select schools all over Metro Manila. The on-going lour campaign is aimed to help promote healthy eating amongst young chil-

dren, aspecially breakfast - as the most important meal of the day. The school tour is scheduled to run until October of this year. So watch out for the Kellogg's caravan because they could be visiting your child's school soon.



anniversary of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines-Elinwood Malate Church, a thanksgiving service will be held today, at its church at 1660 A. Vasquez St., Maiate, Manita, at 9:30 a.m. With the theme "Proclamation of the Word: The Church's Legacy," the message will be delivered by Rev. Dr. Oscar S. Suarez. A fellowship potluck function will follow at the EWK Grounds at 11 a.m.

Innovatronix Image Model INNOVATRONIX Inc's Image Model 2004, a search

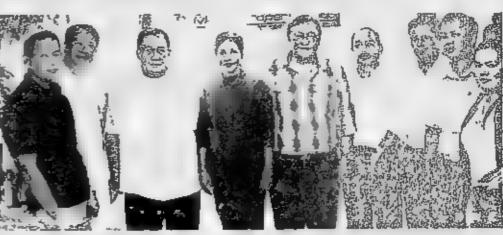
for the best male and female faces which will be featured in display materials of all Tronix and Pbx outlets, is open to all persons 13 to 24 years of age and single. They will have to fill up an application form, which is available at all Tronix and Pix outlets in Manifa, Pampanga and Lipa. Requirements include 2 pieces of 3/4 body shot and 1 close up shot. These must be in 4R size, laminated and taken at any Tronbo and Pix Imaging outlet. Deadline is today. Two pairs will be chosen; one for the Sustamer's Choice and the other as the Image Model winners. For Inquiries, call innovations at 645-6124 and 645-1598.

'Bazaar Sa Forbes Park'

TO USHER the holiday season, the Santuario de San Antonio Parish Center is presenting "Bazaar Sa Forbes Park" today at the premises. The oneday bazaar (eatures products at bargain rates, as well as products from NGO's and raligious organizations. For details, call 825-0804 or 825-3482. The bazaar is open to the public.

Knox UMC concert

KNOX United Methodist Church (Knox UMC) celebrates its 106th Founding Anniversary with a homecoming concert entitled "Jesus is My Music", foolight at 7 p.m., at the Philamlife Theater. Leading the list of performers are Angle Bacho-Manasti and The Spiritual Image. They will be joined by the Knox Choir, Knox Male Voices and the Bethel-Knox Chorale. Special guests is Nanette Invetor, For tickets, call the Knox-UMC office at 734-9851/734-9914.



OFFICE INAUGURATION

MacroProperties Inc., the newly formed marketing arm of New San Jose Builders, Inc recently inaugurated its office at the 6/F of President Tower, 81 Timog Avenue, Ouezon City. MacroProperties is currently undertaking the marketing and sales of a ramber of attordable medium-rise condominium projects such as Theresa Tower in P Tuazon, Cubao, Francesca. Tower in Scout Borromao corner EDSA, Isabel Tower in Judge Jimenez (all in Quezon City), as well as Res-

idencias de Manila in Pandacar., Manila. Shown in photo during the inauguration are: Juny Bayon III, Theresa Tower sales director; Fr. Tony Ranada; Julius Strachan, Francesca Tower sales director, Caroi B. Ros, president, Raiph de Ocampo, vice president, Pat Patero, finance and accounting manager, Only Caridad, Residencias de Manila sales supervisor, Bong, Isabel Tower sales supervisor; and Ronotte Junsay, admin and sales services manager



from Apple APPLE presents the new iMac G5, featuring the high-performance G5 processor and a stumning new design that integrates the entire computer nght into the flar panel display. The iMac G5 packs a complete computer system into a mere two inches of depth-the world's thinnest desktop computer. The new line offers 17- or 20inch acrive marrix widescreen LCDs and GS processors running up to 1.8 GHz starting at

The new (Mac G5 makes the ultimate statement in design simplicity. The entire computer, including the power supply and slot-load optical drive, is built right into the display and rests on a sleek aluminum foot. All the I/O pons line up neatly along the rear right side for easy access, and with optional AirPort Extreme and Bluetooth wireless modules, there's no more cable clutter. With its elegantly thin profile, compact footprint and whisper-quiet operation (less than 25 dB), the new iMac G5 is the perfeet fit for any room in the home or office. It features the breakthrough performance of the PowerPC G5 processor, as well as numerous system performance improvements designed to help consumers nurbocharge their digital blestyle applications. The 17-inch models come with either a 1.8 GHz PowerPC GS processor and a SuperDrive for burning professional-



quality DVDs, or a 1.6 GHz PowerPC G5 processor and a Combo drive for watching DVD movies and burning CDs. The 20-inch model has a 1.8 GHz PowerPC G5 processor and a SuperDrive. With a completely redesigned system architecture, the new iMac G5 now offers up to a 600 MHz front-side bus, 400 MHz DDR memory expandable to 2GB, AGP BX graphics and 7200 rpm Serial ATA drives up to 250GB. The new iMac GS comes standard with high-performance NVIDIA graphics with dedicated video memory for outstanding graphics performance and realistic game play.

For product information, contact Sarah Lumang of MSI-Digiland (Phils) at 688-3708 or et slumang@msi-diglland.com.ph. MSI Digiland is an authorized Apple distributor in the Philippines, For additional information visit Apple's PR web site in http://www.apple.com/pr/.

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Republic of the Philippines Department of Health

BUREAU OF FOOD AND DRUGS

Civio Drive, Fillowest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntiniupa City

<u>Guidelines on Advertising, Promotion and Other</u> MARKETING MATERIALS OF BREASTMILK SUBSTITUTES BREASTMILK SUPPLEMENT AND OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS

These guidelines are issued pursuant to Section 12 (a) (3) in relotion to Section 5 (a) of Executive Order No. 61 ("National Code of Marketing of Broastmik Substitutes, Broastmik Supplement and other Ralated Products") issued on 20 October 1988 on advortising, promotion and other marketing materials of breastnills substitutes, breastmilt supplement and other related products.

BCREENING PROCEDURES

PILING OF APPLICATION

The applicant for pornit to advertee milk products must ascure an application form from the Bureau of Food and Drugs - Inter Agency Committee Secretariat (BFAD-IAC Secretariat). The occompilehod form shall be submitted to the IAC Secretariat logarithm with the required documents and proof of payment of the liting last of Two Thousand Peace (P2,000.00) per material, incomplete documents will not be accopied.

Required documents:

- PRINT ADS
- AUDIO ADS
- AUDIO-VIBUALITY
- text or script storyboard both ploture and text/script

lend and visual layout

substantiation/studies to support claim/s. Other requirement/s: All application forms shall specify the "intended/larget audience" and trist description

of the type of material. The requesting party shall submit one tirel copy and five (5) photocopies of each material for accoming.

Schedule of ecreening of materials shall be levery 2" Monday of the month unless the IAC decides to change the schedule. Application and accompanying documents must be filed on or before the first Friday of each month in order to be included in the ecreaning by the IAC for each month, otherwise

THE INTER-AGENCY SECRETARIAT

it will be considered in the next scheduled screening.

The IAC Secretariat will check and collete the documents according to the requirements for the deliberation of the IAC attaching the IAC voting stops thereon.

The representative/s of both company and ad agency are encouraged to attend the IAC dehiberation to answer queries which may arise during the deliberation of the

The IAC Secretarial shall train the consolidated results of deliberation duly signed by the Chairperson five (5) days after the scroening.

APPROVAL OF APPLICATION

Upon the linelization of the approved advertising material's, the applicant short aubmit the lines copy of the advertising material/s to the AC Socratural for final evaluation by the IAC.

- 4.1, If the final copy of the advertising material does not conform to the approved advertising majorial on Illa, the earne shall be returned to the applicant within live (5) days from date of receipt thersof. The applicant shall make necessary revisions and resubmit the same to the IAC.
- 4.2. If the final copy conforms to the advertising materials as approved by the IAC, a Certificate of Approved shall be issued to the applicant within two (5) days efter
 - 4.2.1. Approval for printing

If the application is approved, a Cartificate of Approval with the Executive Order Number shall be released by the IAC Secretariat as issued and signed by the IAC Chatrperson upon aubmission of the final artwork by

4.2.2. Approval for airing (TV & radio)

if the application is approved, a Certificate of Approval with the Executive Order Number shall be released by the IAC Secretarial as issued and eigned by the IAC Cheliperson upon submission by the applicant of the lines copy of the storyboard and an off-line copy of the material in VHS or cassette tape for final review by the Chairporton

After the resugnce of the Cartificate of Approver, no material variations or changes in the approved advertising materials shall be adved in connection therewith. In case there is doubt as to the conformity of the material with the .AC approval, the same shall be returned to the IAC for final decision.

4.3. The Certificate of Approval shall authorize the applicant to publish, air, discerninate and/or release to the public the approved advortisement, Provided, however, that the published/raiseased materials conforms exactly to the approved copy on the

No advertisement of products shall be aired, published, disceminated or released to the public without a Certificate of Approval issued by the IAC. Violations hereof shall subject the manufacturer, the advertiser and the retio/TV stations to the appropriate senctions provided by law.

5. DISAPPROVAL OF APPLICATION

If the application is disapproved, the applicant shall be informed of the disapproval and the reasons thereof within the (5) days from the date of deliberation. Applicant shall make the necessary revisions of the disapproved materials and resubmit the same for the reconsideration of the IAC.

The following documents shall be submitted to the IAC Secretarial together with the request for reconsideration:

- The disapproved advertisement or a faithful faculation thereof:
- All supporting materials which were required to be submitted with the original application; and
- Copies of the voting forms of the AC mambers.

MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

A written motion for reconsideration of the .AC decision danying the application may be filed by the aggreeved party within live (8) working days from date of receipt of the written notice of disapproval. Said motion shall be addressed to the IAC and itled with the IAC Secretariet.

If the request for reconsideration is filed by mall, the date of melling shall be deemed to be the date of Ming.

Only one (1) motion for reconsideration shall be entertained.

- 8.1 The request for reconsideration shall contain the following: The date of receipt of the notice of disapproval; and
 - The reasons or grounds on which the reconsideration is based: Provided, however, that only grounds directly partinent to the advertising majorisis and directed to the reasons for disapproval shall be considered e.g., additional scientific data to support the citims.

8.2. The following grounds are not acceptable:

Allegations not directly reloted to the advertising materials sought to be reconsidered, such as but not limited to, toes of sales, loss of advertising contract, inability to meet describes and need to import the product; and Allegations not directed to the grounds for disapproves.

The IAC shall evaluate the request for reconsideration and a vote of the majority of the members greatest shall be sufficient to render a decision of the IAC Alt opinions whether for or against shall be to written form and will form part of the

A copy of the decision shall be served upon the aggrieved party within five (6) days from the date of the randition.

VALIDITY OF APPROVAL

The Carificate of Approval shall be valid for a period of one (1) year from the date of issuance. The Committee however, may, in special cases, usue a Corificate of Approval walld for loss than one your.

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

Metariais subject of the request for extension shall be tracted as now materials and will lokew the same procedures for new applications.

NON-PUBLICATIONSMON-ARING

Non-publication or non-alting of the advertisement within six (8) months from the date of the Listianco of the Certificals of Approval shall be a ground for the revocation of thereof. without need of a hearing. Said revocation shall be effective as of the date of receipt of the

GENERAL BCREENING CRITERIA

The deliberation shall cover both the general concepts and details of the lext as well as the perticular medium used. Bottom line of the deliberation shall be the over-all impact of the ad on the public to which it is addressed or to those who would generally have access

The following shall be the guiding ordering in the apreceing:

9,1 Standard Messages

The lollowing standard messages shall be incorporated in all advartisements:

ADVERTIBEMENTS OF MILK SUPPLEMENTS

ENGLISH

- 9.1.m.1. Primary Standard Meseage "BREASTMILK IS THE BEST FOR BABIES UP TO 2 YEARS"
- 9,1,4.2. Secondary Standard Messages "THE USE OF MILK SUPPLEMENTS MUST CHLY BE UPON ADVICE OF A HEALTH PROFESSIONAL"
- BE DANGEROUS TO YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH" 8.1.8.5. Primary Feeding Bottles and/or Tests Standard Mossago "BREASTFEEDING IS THE BEST FOR BASIES UP TO 2 YEARS"

"THE IMPROPER USE OF BREASTMILK SUPPLEMENTS MAY

- 9,1.a.4. Becondary Feeting Bollies and/or Tests Standard Measage THE IMPROPER USE OF MILK SUPPLEMENTS/ FEEDING BOTTLES AND TEATS MAY BE DANGEROUS TO YOUR CHILD S HEALTH"
- P.1.2.5. Primary Complementary Food Standard Message PEXCLUSIVE BREASTFEEDING IS THE BEST FOR BASIES
- UP TO BIX MONTHS" 9.1.a.6. Secondary Complementary Food Standard Mossage "START COMPLEMENTARY FEEDING AT SIX MONTHS. INTAKE OF IMPROPERLY PREPARED COMPLEMENTARY FOODS MAYBE DANGEROUS TO YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH"

9.1.b. FILIPINO

- 9.5.5.1 Primary Standard Message
 - "ANG GATAS NG INA ANG PINAKAMABUTI PARA BA BATA HANGGANG 2 TAON."
- 9.1.b.2. Becondary Standard Message
 - "ANG PAGGAMIT NG ANUMANG PAMALIT SA GATAS NG INA AY DAPAT SANG-AYON SA PAYO NG ISANG HEALTH
 - ANG MALING PAGGANIT NG ANUMANG PAMALIT SA GATAB NG INA AY MAAAR NG MAKASASAMA SA KALUBUGAN NG BATA"
- 9.1.b.3. Primary Feeding Bottles and/or Teats Standard Message "ANG PAGPAPASUSO ANG PINAKAMAGALING PARA SA BATA HANGGANG 2 TAON"
- 9.1.b.4. Secondary Fooding Bottles and/or Tests Standard Massage "ANG MALING PAGGAMIT NG BOTELYA AT TSUPON AY MAAARING MAKASASAMA BA KALUSJIGAN NG BATA"
- 9.1.b.5. Primary Complementary Foods Standard Message "ANG BATAB NG INA LAMANG ANG PINAKAMABUTI PARA BA BATA SA UNANG ANIM NA BUWAN"
- £.1.5.6. Secondary Complementary Foods Standard Message "ANG PAGE BIGAY NG KARAGDAGANG PAGKAIN AY DAPAT BANG-AYON SA PAYO NG ISANG HEALTH PROFESSIONAL"

LABELLING OF MILK SUPPLEMENTS

9,2. Standard Pro-Forms Message

9.2.1. The following messages shall be printed on all labels of commercially poid infant formula (used only by intente with metabolic disorders) including the ac-collect special milk formula (supplement initioad of formula), the so-called low birth weight milk formula (there is no such thing as LBW formula), and follow-on milk formula (which we require to be called milk

IMPORTANT: "BREASTMILK IS THE BEST FOR BABIES UP TO 2 YEARS"
"THE JAE OF MILK SUPPLEMENTS MUST ONLY BE UPON ADVICE OF A HEALTH PROFESSIONAL! THE IMPROPER USE OF BREASTMILK SUPPLEMENTS MAY BE DANGEROUS TO

YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH' MAHALAGA: "ANG GATAS NG INA ANG PINAKAMABUTI PARA SA BATA HANGGANG

"ANG PAGGAMIT NG ANUMANG PAMALIT SA GATAS NG INA AY DAPAT SANG-AYON SA PAYO NG ISANG HEALTH PROFESSIONAL" 'ANG MALING PAGGAMIT NG ANUMANG PAMALIT SA GATAS NG INA AY MAAARING

- The mosenge shall be at least 1/8 of the type size of the biggest letter/loge
- 9.2.3. The message shall be written in bold letters on the appearment border of the principal display panel.
- The use of the term "mill: supplement" shall replace the phrase "follow-on 8.24 formula" on the label of the follow-on formula breasings substitute.
- Concerning labels The following ploture afgrawings are not allowed:
 - ug lotant:

MAKASASAMA SA KALUSUGAN NG BATA"

- s woman with a leading bottle:
- an infant and a woman holding a faoding bottle; a women holding a fooding botile
- a leading bottle with or without white substance traids the bottle on the principal display penel; and
- pack /product shots covered by the code.
- 9.3. For PRINT advertisements, the primary standard message shall be at least 1/3 of the size of the largest latterings in the ad materials. Primary and Secondary standard messages shall be contained in all advertisements and should be prominently deplayed and emphasized. The size of the secondary mossages should be 3/4 of the size of the primary measure. The scruel picture of a Filipine breastleading mother is included in the standard messages and both mother and beby should be depicted as beautiful, happy and healthy. 0.4. For purely AUDIO advertisements (radio axis), the primary message should be mendioned
- at least before the catch line or the rest line of the promotional material.

- 9.5. For purely AUDIO-VISUAL advertisements (TV eds), the primery standard message with an actual broasticoding togo shall be tlashed, accord to the isst frame for all least three (3) escends. Voice-over for the primary standard message. sholl be a requirement.
- 8.8. The lelicwing are not allowed:

accoming to the control of the contr

- 9.6.1. Advertisement of injury formula from birth to 5 months
- Corporate displays which include products under E.C. 51 Annuacoments of program sponsorship e.g. "This program/special is brought to you by... "combining only the name of the company." This shall require only a Cortillonia of Charance subject to the same application procedures as provided herein.
- **Special displays**
- Shelf tather/viaton, floor vision 9.6.4.
- 2.6.6.
 - Endorsement (direct or Indirect) of product by parents, declors, health professionala, exports or scientist in Nutrition
 - Pictures/drawing of:
 - An intent hoking a feeding bottle An injent and a woman holding a feeding bottle
 - A women holding a feeding boilie A leading bottle contoming a while substance
 - A baby and the product shot in one frame
 - A man and a woman with a product shot
 - A feeding bottle on the principal display panel Appearance of Intent and mother with the brand product.
- 9.7 Print Ad/Product Shots are not allowed as false cover, detachable insert (i.e., bookmarks and souvenir program) and tradde front and book and outside back
- 9.8. Print Ad on inlant feeding bottles or any graduated contener made of glass, plastic or similar materials should be limited to MIMS & PIMS (Philippins Index of Medical Specialities). 9.9. Hanging of streament, between, posters, billhoards about the limited to conventions end medical functions largeting medical doctors only, and should not be displayed in
- stores/trade outlots, government facilities and along highways. Metarials must show only the company name/logo and not the product.

9.10 Other Advertising materials. Price cards containing only the name of the product and/or the company and the price and should be confined in store or supermarket shower for the intent and purpose of salling the products on display.

9.11. Manufecturers and important of milk supplements shall have str (6) months from the effectivity of these guidelines to exhaust the remaining stocks of the products whose labeling does not comply herewith.

10. ACCURACY OF THE INFORMATION

- 10.1. The advortisements must contain accurate and clear information.
- 10.2 Proofs substantialing any of the deline/assumptions/information must be submitted. The IAC will accept only proofs that are scientific, objective and clear from researches not funded by the companion and/or their afrikates.

All health and nutrition claims for products which have high potentials of misleading the public shall not be allowed.

Promotion of products covered by the scope of the Code must be objective and should not idealize the product over breastmak or breastleading to the advantaging concept. It must not in any case undermine breastmik or breastfeeding. The "total effect" should not directly or indirectly suggest that buying the product means plying love and affection by parents or relatives of that patronizing the product will bring better health to the

2 MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES

The Department of Health - Sureau of Food and Drugs shall be principally responsible

for the implementation and enforcement of the provisions of the Code in the event advertisements are aired, published, released or dissemblated:

Without the corresponding Certificate of Approval;

Without conforming exactly with the approved copy on 5to with the IAO, or Without the Cartificate of Approval Number as required, the AC Secretarial shall immediately issue a Cease and Desist Order (CDO) signed by the Chairman of the Committee against the manufacturer, the edvertising company

- and the newspaper, establishments and the radio/TV stations concorned ordering the withdrawal of the promotional materials within the following periods. Radio/TV Commercials -- Twenty four (24) hours from receipt of the CDO:
- Nowspapers and other Print Publications other than posters Three (3) days to Metro Manda and one (1) weak in provinces from date of receipt of the CDO in case of daily publications and in the successing tesus in all other cases, and Postors and other colleteral materials such as absamars, banners, etc. - One (1) week from receipt of the CDO within Matro Mania and two (2) weeks in all

other areas within the Philippines in the event the COO is not compiled with within the time prescribed above, the IAC Secretariat shall annuchately autimit a report of non-compliance of the CDO to the Legal Owleron of BFAD for the prosecution of the eming time/sofilles.

All previous administrative issuances and guidelines relative to E.O. 51, s. 1986 inconsistent with these guidelines are hereby repealed and/or modified, accordingly These guidelines shall be effective immediately following its publication in a newspaper

of general circulation. August 2, 2004, Mantia, Philippines.

RECOMMENDING APPROVAL:

ADELISA CIFRA RAMOS, MPH. MPA CEGO IV Deputy Director for Food, BFAD

SIME . TOT ATTY, HJALMAR M. QUINTANA, JR. State Counsor II, DOJ ARCHISTAGTAG

EVELYNU SENATIN M.D. Medical Ollicer IV. DSWD DR JUANITA BASILIO Medical Onicol VII, DOH

Sr. Trade Ind. Dept. Specialist-DT)

APPROVED BY:

HON, MANJEL M. DAYRIT MD. MBc. Secretary of Health Chairman HON desably our SIMA Secretary of Trede & Industry Member HON MA MERCEDITAS N. GUTTERREZ Acting Societary of Justica Morphor HON. CORAZON JULIANO SOLIMAN

Sacretary of Social Wallare & Development

Member

(PDI=Del. 17, 2004)



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FOR SALE

Established Bakeshop's Goodwill, Stall/ Shop (Robinsons Metro East & Kapitolyo, Pasig) And Slightly Used Bakeshop Equipments

Robinsons Metro East Stall and Equipments -

- PhP 380,000.00 Flight to lease the stall; Two (2) Unifical Chillers
- One (1) Working Chiller Table: and Klock
- Kapitolyo, Pasig Baker/Shop Php 330,000.00 One (1) huge Chiller; One (1) Unifrost Reingerated Cabinet;
- One (1) Big KitchenAld Cake Mixer; One (1) Small KilchenAid Cake Mixer; One (1) Sanyo Retrigerator; Two-Deck Oven,

One (1) Long Stainless Steel Working Table;

Assorted Balding Utenells;

Goodwill -- Php 350,000.00 interested buyers may contact Mr. Ricardo Maniego II at 421-9318 or 422-5089.



Republic of the Philippines City of Seyawan BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

| MOHO. | PR.HQ. | T(EN) | ARC | BOUNCEOF | DATE | MIE. |
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| 04-160 | D1-5041 | HamatocidCarintogaland Accessores Dordal Eq. prescand 2.4. conditioning units (http:// | 440,350 00 | (Seneral Fund | 2-00 PML 28/0c/2004 | (0.50 flik, call-lay/2 |
| 04-190 | Varous | Medicanos and Modicas Supplies for City Hentity Offices | 1372,017.00 | Opporti Fund | 2 00 PM 250007004 | 10:30 AV 0846K |
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Plans of Californy FDB DAYAWAYCOTY WATCH-OUSE Period of Destroy 18 Calendar Buye sport recept of Particle Child
Warranty Required 3 morths his exprises 1 year for equipment Plans och storing or appeal their guesselee expressed in 10% of control price on so we need to come fact was taken to expense if year to expense in the control of the special limits guarantee expenses in 10% of control price in the purity of the control of the expense of the exp

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Bid documents that be synample at the BAC Cillion, Annual Busing Spanis Complex Suttang, LOU Seynamic Cap starting Optober \$1, 2004 spanish of prescription of the Spanish Spanish

with the state of the state of

(POI-Bopt, 17 & SA, 3004)

(Sgd) PANCHOF VILLARD 5 Agriculturor, Champion DAC

tme larbest used car loan

Bank in the Country Today

AMA GROUP OF COMPANIES

USED CARS

LIBRAY PROMISE

SPECIAL BITERIEST

RATEASLOWAS 9% p.a.

ACCEPTABLE YEAR MODELS

1991-2004

Also available:

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CAR - LATERAL LOAN

CASH LOAN USING YOUR CAR AS COLATERAL!

BRAND NEW CARS ARE ALSO ACCEPTED

Fast Processing and Check release.

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3733901 loc. 8220/8302/8303

REAL ESTATE

3014 Da 1450

/11

ANEW PENTHOUSE UNIT

BANACK WACK COMPONENIUM.

MANDALUYONG

OVERLOOKING GOLFCOURSE FACING EAST

- 4 BDRMS W/ T&b

3 PARK-NG SLOTS

2 OUT BOOR YFRAHDAS

310 SQM (TOTAL AREA)

CALL: MS DING ATESOR

0920-9216122

926-2802 (OFC HOURS)

GENERAL

CORNEL TORNES AND A

PETS

PCC

327th PCCI & 328th PCCI

ALL BREEDS DOGSHOWS

ORTIGAS TOWN

0.000

JULIA VARGAS

CORNER MERALCO

AVE., PASIG CITY

UNDER INT'L JJDGES

MR. ICHIRO

ISHIKAWA

(Japan)

MR TOMIO

FUJIHATA

(Jepan)

STRICLY NO

ADDENDLM

SHOW SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

October: 17, 2004

B:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Registration and Judg ng

of Non-Sporting &

Healing Grp

12:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Registration & Judging of

Working Group

CORPORATE SPONSORS:

PUBLIC

HOTICES

include side

Jajii Pawnshop will hold an

Auction Sale on all Unite-

deamed & expired pieciges on

October 20, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. at Bentfacto St., Libia, Tanay,

Rizal, Greg Mondoza - Auction-

ADVANCE

SALEMENT

TRANSPORTATION

FOR REMT

MEMBER

TRANSPORTATION

TO THE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Lipa, Betangas

MOUNT MALARAYAT

GOLF & COUNTRY

CLUB

RESIDENTIAL LOTS

870 sqm P 2,757.404.57

876 sqm P 2,773,261 72

925 sqm P 2,931.723.25

1.032 som P.3.270.852.32

1,058 sam P3,346,918.65

1,283 sqm P 4,068,379.38

1,568 sgm P 4,963,328.23

1,632 sgm P 5,172,510.64

1,830 sqm P 5,800,067 89

2,012 sqm P 6,376,894.25

Committee of the Commit

San Antonio Village.

Makati City

PALM TOWER

COMMERCIAL JUITS

15.25egm P421,357.50

18,16com P446,500.80

17.40sgm P460.782.00

20.30sqm P560,889.00

21.62sgm P597,380.00

29.19sqm: P806,519.70

34.28sgm P947,432,70

45.63sqm P1,199.156.40

52,20sqm P1,371,818.00

65.00sqm P1 734,480.00

CLASSER SERVICE

MANILA CITY

STRUBBE

CCPD SI3 - CHLD APT BLDG

A 571 Sign 4271 présent (a Papa Marilla Stantasum Did Présen P 12,600,000

LEPH AUG-COMMING COLWA

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Kalayant County Kees of St. Str. Crist.

Michelman Hild Priors P \$1,750,000

ALABANG MUNTINLUPA

LCDR 529 HIN SE & LCD.

CPO SM - NOUNE & LOT

LOPE SEL HOUSE A BOY

LA Intrope (3 LI VILS) No 6th Highland Drive, Allo

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Minimum Bid Pales, P 5,970,000

L.A. Mosque F.A. 3425qu 443 - Nace St. Greenfalls - and Valentinum (Ad Palers V 17,494,000

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COMMUNICATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY

Macama Hubates F Conten De.

TAGAYTAY CUTY

PCPB 904 VACANTILDT

LA 11.57/sqm Bu Malcable Tate, Page 109

Attaderson Bid Priocs P 36,924,400

AUCTION MANAGER

LA 3,195am

PURK NO

F.A. 183.4 NUM

Mineral Bid Prints P. J. 300,000

Minimum that Prices P 16,920,009

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GREENHILLS SAN JUAN

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OUEZON CITY

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LA. 1000 Squ. 1 A 1,217 95 qui

Villation on Blid Prints (* 1532.3 Stuffe)

DOPENSIA CONSULTATI

EXPROVED A CRESTAGE FOR

MAKATI CITY

CONDOMINIUMS

LAGUNA

COMMENTAL CONTRACTOR

I. A. 27.651squi Makarida, Seven, Phys. Sun Bo

ISABELA / CAGAYAN

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36.38eqm P1,204,243.20

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42,65sqm P1,274,382.00

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187sqm P710,000.00

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Molice is hereby given that the estate of the late LEO J. SANTOS was extrathe late judicially settled and parti-Roned between the heirs as per D c c . N c . 3 B 1 , Page No. 78, Book No. 122. Spries 2004 before Notary Public Juanto & Vitue of PDI-Oct. 10, 17 & 24, 2004

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LB (Land Bank) Realty **Development Corporation**

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

All contractors, registered end/or classified by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) for Buildings and Industrial Plant and preferably with experience in the construction of bank building or projects of identical scope of works and technology, are invited to apply for pre-qualification and to submit thair bids for the renovation/construction of the following LBP BRANCH OFFICES

| Branch Office | Estimated Amount | Category |
|--|---------------------------|-------------|
| Cabanatuan Branch & Annex Bldg. Nueva Edija | 9.69M | Medium |
| Cainte, Rizal | 17.31M | Medium. |
| Guimba, Nueva Ecila | 1.51M | Small |
| Clark Flaid, Pampangs | 1 90M | Small |
| San Isidro, Nueva Ecila | 2 864 | Small |
| Cebu (BOC), Cebu City | 3.14M | Small . |
| Tuguegarao Regil H.O., Cagayen | 2,12M | Small |
| The state of the s | A section of terms of the | Manager and |

Unit of the Land Bank Reaity Development Corporation at 30th ftr, LBP Plaza, 1598 M.H. dei Pilar corner J. Ouktos Ste., Maiste, Manila. Issuence of Pre-qualification Forms will start on October 18, 2004.

LBROC reserves the right to change the cost estimates, the date of issuance of bid documents, pre-bid conference, submission of bids and date of bidding. Due notice of changes shall however be communicated by BRDC to invited bidders.

LBRDC likewise reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any detect or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnity the bidders for any expense or loss that they may incur in the preparation of their bid and to accept the bid most advantageous to the

For further details, please call Eng'r Jaime S. Mandoza/Dolly Nativity Arandela/Arias L. Mendoza at 405-7169/405-7402/405-7135.

(Sgd.) CHAIRMAN Committee on Bids and Awards

(PDI - Oct. 17, 2004)



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October 11, 2004

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> (Sgd.) PRUDENCIANA C. CRUZ Director V

(PDI - October 15 & 17, 2004)

NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION Dillman, Quezon City

INVITATION TO BID FOR THE SALE OF **ONE-YEAR WASTE OIL GENERATION**

FOR EMB-DENR ACCREDITED WASTE TREATERS ONLY "AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS

DATE OF BIDDING: October 27, 2004, 2:00 PM, Sciarium Half. Building-1, NPC Head Office Agham Road corner Quezon Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

This public bidding is for the sale of one-year waste oil generation from the

| ď | OHOYVII | iy: | | | -1 |
|---|---------|--|-----|-----------|----|
| | ITEM | NPC THERMAL POWER PLANT AND LOCATION | MIN | BID PRICE | 4 |
| | 1 | PANAY DIESEL, POWER PLANT-1 BRGY TABUGON, DINGLE, ILOILO PROVINCE | | P 4.40 | |
| | 2 | BOHOL DIESEL POWER PLANT DAMPAS, TAGE LARAN CITY (BOHOL ISLAND) | | P 4.40 | |
| | 3 | NAGA POWER PLANT COMPLEX COLON, NAGA, CEBU PROVINCE | | P 4.40 | |
| | 4 | BATAAN COMBINED-CYCLE POWER PLANT BRGY, LUZ, LIMAY, BATAAN PROVINCE | | P 4.40 | |
| | | | | | |

ALL BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE FOLLOWING.

PROPOSAL BOND DEPOSIT IN THE FORM OF CASH OR MANAGER'S/CASH, ER'S CHECK EQUIVALENT TO PhP 120,000,00. LATEST INCOME TAX RETURN 2003 ORIGINAL (OR CERTIFIED XEROX COPY) FOR THE BIDDER OR AN AUDITED FINANCIAL

STATEMENT (OR GINAL) OF THE COMPANY.
VALID ACCREDITATION FROM EMB-DENR FOR TREATMENT/ STORAGE/DISPOSAL (TSD) FACILITY AND FOR THE WASTE TRANSPORTER, NOLUDING PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PERMIT TO TRANSPORT, WASTE MANIFEST FORM AND CERTIFICATE OF TREATMENT ALL ACKNOWLEDGED BY EMB-DENR.

Interested parties who wish to participate in the public bidding must present the original accreditation from EMB-DENR and may secure the official bid forms at P1,000,00/set from Mr. Samuel V. Lomuniad, Jr. at Ground Floor Bullding-1, NPC Head Office, Agham Road corner Quezon Avenue, Dillmen, Q.C. or call telephone no. 924-5384. Deadline for lesuance of bid forms la 4:30 PM, October 26, 2004

For the Materials Management Department (Sgd.) FELIX B. TACATA, JR. OIC, MMD

(PDI Oct 17, 18 & 19 2004)

0 0 0 M 000

United Nations Population Fund

INVITATION TO BID

The United Nationa Population Fund (LNFPA) would like to invite Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) to develop and implement a study to investigate the current behavioral, epidemiological and policy data on HIV/AIDS and existing information system in the Philippines in order to improve the quality and utilization of HIV/AIDS related data in the country. The NGOs shall submit SEALED BIDS to contract the required services described below.

- 1) Verify the current HIV prevalence rate vis-à-vis behavioral data among groups arolveded kan-dold daw
- Analyze vulnerability and risk factors present in the country, including social. political and cultural norme, that could influence the pace of spread of HIV.
- identify gaps in the data collection and management of information; and, Recommend action to improve the information system and quality of data on the HIV/AIDS situation in the Philippines.

SCOPE OF WORK AND EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- Areas of Research: Behavioral, Biomedical/Epidemiological, Surveillance/ Management Information System, Policy
- identily and hire a Technical Team composed of international and local experts, in consultation with UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS
- Will be responsible for the following technical tester: Draft tracarch design and workplan to be approved by the Chair of the UN Theme Group on HIV/ AIDS. Submit lines report that will contain: (a) the results and analysis in each area of the study including gaps identified; and, (b) recommendations to improve the information system and quality of data on the HIV/AIDS. siluation in the Ph lippines. Serve as resource persons during the
- dissemination forum. Will be responsible for the following administrative functions: Collect aecondary data as required by the research team. Set up appointments with key informents. Make travel and other administrative arrangements for required locus group discussions and out of lown trips of the research team Coordinate the printing of the final report. Organize the dissemination forum
- Ensure the limity conduct of activities including the submission of the Technicai Team's deliverables Coordinate with JN Thema Group on HIV/AIDS, through the UNAIDS

Secretarial, and regularly report on the progress of the project MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: NGO must have at least eight (8) years of excellent tract record on HIV/AIDS research in the Philippines TIME TABLE, The study

will be carried out over a period of twelve (12) months Detailed Information is contained in the www.unipe.org.ph. Interested parties may secure Bid Documents, instruction to Bidders and Terms of Relatince from the following address: UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND, 6" Floor, NEDA 48 Makeli Building, 106 Amoraolo Sireel, Legazpi Village, Makati

Bid documents will be released to all interested parties strictly from 18 to 22 October 2004 only. The Bid Documents shall contain all instructions on the rules, procedures, bid opening dates, other schedules and requirements.

Bids must be delivered to the address no later than 6:00 p.m. of 29 October 2004. Late bids will be rejected. JNFPA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, walve any detect or informality therein, accept the bid and award the contract to the most advantageous offer to UNFPA based on UNFPA criteria. UNFPA assumes no obligation or responsibility whatsoever to comparisate or indemnity the bidder for any expense or lose that may be incurred for the preparation of the bide, not does it guarantee that an award will be made for this contract.

(PDI - October 17 & 18, 2004)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



JOSE YIA BENITEZ

This is to inform the public that CHINA BANKING CORPORATION has terminated for cause the services of JOSE YIA BENITEZ, whose picture appears above, effective close of business on 08 October 2004.

Any transaction entered with him in behalf of the Bank will not be honored

CBC MANAGEMENT



71/04 (Det. 17, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines Department of Social Welfare and Development Batasan Pambarisa Complex, Constitution Hills Quezon City Telephone No. 931-8101 to 07

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

ITB No. GOP/04-DSWD-004

The Department of Social Wellare and Development (DSWD), a national government agency, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), is inviting duly accredited Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO) to apply for sligibility and to bid for the PROVISION OF HEALTHCARE SERVICES FOR DSWD EMPLOYEES NATIONWIDE THROUGH A HEALTH CARD SYSTEM

The program shall cover 2,538 regular, casual and contractual/co-terminus employees (with Phil. Health insurance) which will be funded with a fixed available amount of ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED PESOS (Php 1,800) and 1,845 MOA workers (without Phi. Health In-BURBOCE) for TWO THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED SIXTY PESOS (Php 2,960) for a 12-month coverage for both.

For the purpose of this bid, eligible bidders shall be those who have accredited hospital and clinics in ALL regions of the country.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Bids and Awards Committee Secretarist 2nd floor, OSWD, Balasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City with telephone nos.

A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders upon submission of a letter of intent and upon payment of a non-refundable (se of Php 2,500.00.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on November 3, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. to be held at the Administrative Conference Room, 2nd Floor, DSWD, Constitution Hills, Quezon City.

Sealed applications for eligibility and bid proposal, together with the bid security, must be delivered to the BAC Secretarial on or before November 16, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. Thereafter, eligibility and bid envelopes will be opened in the presence of bidder's representative/s that chooses to altend, Opening of bids will be hald at the Administrative Conference Room, 2nd Floor DSWD, Constitution Hills, Quezon City. Late bids

will not be accepted. DSWD hereby reserves the right to reject any or all applications for eligibility and to bid, to waive any formality therein and/or accept the bid as may be considered most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) CELIA C. YANGCO Undersecretary and Chairparson, 8AC-il

(PD) + October 10 & 17, 2004)

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Lot W/ Imp - Capitol Park Homes Subd., Capitol Dist., DC, 400 sq.m., P 7,310,000.00

Hee'l MAL - 2nd BL Carreon Village, San Santolome, Novalichea, OC. 240 aq.m., P 854,020.00

Resh w/ Inspryl. - No. 13 Naranghita Sl., Amang Redriguez VIII., Brgy. Concepcion, Mankina City, 240 sq.m., P 2.385.750.00 Resh HSL - L-2, B-29 Riverside Orive, Provident Subd., Jesus dela Peña, Marikha City, 252 sq.m., P 1,586,500.00

Townhouse - Unil 537-B. Katipunan St, Marikina Exec. Townhomes, Argy. Sto. Nino, Bayenbayanan, 59.76 sq.m., P 1,300,000.00

Ples" w/ bidg. - #420 Zebille St., Tundo, Manila, 400 sq.m., P 6,052,050.00 Res1 w/ Imprvt. - Samender St., Sampaloo, Manke, 51 75 eq.m., 9 2,400,000.00

Res1 Hat. - No. 2042-2044 Pres. Quirino Ave.. Pandacan, Menile, 237,1eq.m., P 6,128,000.00

Res[†] TH Unit 203 Roxas Seafroni Garden, Pasay City, 100 eq.m., P 6,050,000.00

Office space condo unk 11 1A EG: Rufino Plaza Condo, Gli Poyat, Ave., Passy City, 61.503 eq.m. P 2,784,437.00

Office space condo unil - 11-2A EGi-Rutino Plaza Condo Gli Puyar Ave., Passy City. 41 444 sq.m. P1,876.189.00

Fleat Condo unit - No. 830 Cityland 8 Condo, Gil Puyat, Miul. City, 33.25 aq.m., P 1,081,050.00

Rea'l Condo Juli - Unit 1138 localed at 11th fir., Data Rosa St., Pio del Piter, Mkill. City, 23.74 eq.m., P.831,070.20

Rest condo unit - Unit Nos. 1122 Boosted at 11th fir., Dela Rosa Condo., Delts Rosa St., Pio del Pier, Mediati City, 22.29 sq.m. P 600.000.00

PASKA CITY/TAGUIG

Past H&L No. 434 M.H. del Pilar St. Bo. Pinagbuhatan St., Paalg City, 1,594 sq.m., P 12,320,000.00

Res1 H&c. No. 36 St. Jude St., Holy Family Subd., Taguig, 36sq.m., P 2,741.900.00 MALABONGALOGGAN

Rest vacant lot Dampail, Malabon, 265 sq.m., P 530,250.00

Res¹ H&L+ No. 69 N. Vicenie &L. Brgy. Niugan Mainbon, MM, 800 sq. m., P 5,751,000.00

Res1 W imprvt. - Rodriguez Št. North Morville Park II Subd Tanza, Navotas, 254 sq.m., P 1,819,720.00

LAS PIÑAS/PARAÑAQUE/MUNTINLUPA

Ptes'l (al. - Lat 6, Bik. 2 Jordan Loop. Christianville Subd., Las Pinas City, 297 sq.m., P 450,000.00

Regi w/Impert Rd, L-37 Soldier's Hilf, Bo. Putatan Muntinhapa, MM, 180 squit., P 1,495,500.00

Has I w/ Imprvi #17 Finland St., Betterliying Subd., Brgy, Don Bosco, Parahaque City, 300 sq.m., P 3,041,800.06

SAN JUAN/MANDALUYONG/PASIG CITY/TAGUIG

Res'l condo unit Unit C 8/F fower IV Governor's Place Condo, Mandaluyong, 84 sq.m., P 3.780,000.00 Condo Unit - Unit 25-GV Midsard Park Manor II, Ortigas Ave., San Juan, MM, 99.5 sq.m., P 8,132,000.00

ResT condo unit - Unit 910 - Pacific Place Condo Pearl Drive, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, 100.10 sq.m., P 4,200,000.00

Restr Agri tot. 1-947-A. Brgy. Sto. Angel Norte, So. Sentisime Cruz, Ste. Cruz, Laguna, 10,844 aq m. P. 271,000 00 Resitot - Lot 1-F-2, Brgy, Belong Malaque, Los Baños, Leguria, 1,000 sq m., P2,400,000.00

Res* lot + Lot 24, 59. 5, Northwet Side of Hillop Orive, Hoaday Hills Subd., Brgv. San Ancho, San Pedro, Leguna, 664 aq.ra., P1.500,000.00

Lol 4, Bik. 9, Ecocontrum Businness Park, Bgy Halang, Bihan, Laguna, 1,354 sq.m., P 12,456,800.00

CAVITE/TAGAYTAY/BATANGAS

ResTlot Lot 6. Blk. 33. Marriin Southwoods nona, Cavite, 852 sq.m., P3,566,000.00 Res'l lot- Lot 643-J, within Broy., Tucking, imus Caville, 247 5 sq.m. P446.000 00 ### / Commit. lot - Lot 586-A M.Y. Line \$1. Brgy. Lipe City, 1,241 80 eq.m. P2,052,750.00 NUEVA ECIJA/CABANATUAN CITÝ/ BATAAN

Res lot - Lot 27, Pad-218602, Bacani St., Bo Santiago, Celteristusin City, 1,583 sq.m., P318,650.00

Res'l lot - Nueva St., 80. Sen Roque. Jeen. Nueva Ecija, 3,333 sq.m.. P2,000,000.00 Ros'l Agri Brgy, Entablado, Cablao, Nueva Ectja. 2,264 sq.m P 814,000 00 Res'lois - 37 Lot 25, B-3, Bo. Mabuco, Hermosa, Bataen, 283 sq.m., *P*59,000,00 PANGASINAN/DAGUPAN/LA UNION/ BENGUET

Rea1 lot - FV-13705-D. Skilo Tiplop, Brgy. Bockel, La Trinklad. Benguel, 7.523 sq.m. P9,027,600.00

Rest Hat - Let 28768-C, 9rgy, Road Quintong, San Carlos Cay, 2,356 eq.m. , P 710,000.09

ResTH&L - Lot 7915-B. Bo. Bonuar-Guesel, Degupan City, 618 sq.m., P 581,500.00

ResT HSL- Lot 4354-X-1, Teptied District, Degupen City, 840 eq.m., P2,150,000.00

Rost HAL - National Road, Sc. Meligaya Tumauni, teabela, 854eg.m., P1,064,000.00 Res'l/ Commit #34 Prov. Rd. Quinaten Regen, kabele, 422aq.m., P1,051,210.79 ResTHAL-Bo. Rd, Bo Allinguigen II, liegen Inabele, 2,799sq.m., P558,000 00 CALAPAN, MINDORO

Reat lot - Let 3099-Q-4. Sts. Rees II, Baco, Oriental Mindoro, 553 eq.m., P104,920.00 Res'l lot - Lot 28 ExecutiveHomes, Pacheca, Catapan, Oriental Mindere, 108 sq.m., P167,500.00

lot Lot 13, 8-5, Srgy Sen lekiro, Victoria, Mindoro, 240 eq.m., P256,940.00 **LEGASPI CITY**

Rest fot - Lot 26-8,8-3, Aeroville Subd, Grozada, Legazpi Chy. 51 sq.m., 2846,250,00

Res* lot - Lot 7952-A, Bo. Estenza, Legezph City, 495 eq.m., P220,500.00 Res¹ lot - 401 7982, Bo Estanza, Legazol City, 452 ag.m., P219,500.00

LAPU-LAPU/MANDÁUE/CEBU Ras'l lot - L18861-A. San Carlos Heights,

Quiet Pardo Cebu City, 898 eq.rs., P 1,202,000.00 Res1lot - Lot 4109 Sesak-Agus Road, Brgk. Agus, Lapu-lapu City, 13,282 sq.m., P 15,507,000.00

Res^o lot - Lot 27, Blk4 Bgy Marigandon Lapu-lape City, 732 eq.m., P 732,000.00

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BACOLOD/NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

Res¹ Lot Surethine Valley, Brox Estefania, Secolod City, 1, 167 sq.m., P 1,388,400,00 Res¹ - L4-B Broy 6, Poblacion, Sabela, Negros Oco., 1,138 sq.m., P 616,300,00 Res1 H&L-St. Joseph Street, Done Juliana Becolod City, 240 sq.m., P 1,038,000.00 Res7 Lot + Rizat St. La Certote, Negroa Occidental, 1,853 sq.m., P 3,086,650,00 Res1 H&. - Lot 1412-8-4 Boy, Mendalegan Bacciod City,1,200 sq.m., P 1,800,000,00

Rest Lot - Don Julio Village, Brgy Agener, Pavis, Itolio, 271sq.m., P217,000.00 Res't fot - L5 Ma. Cristina Jano, Iliolio City, 278 aq.m., P 196,000.00

Res1 let - L4 B4 Don Venencio Galicales Village, 205 sq.m., P88,000.00 Res* H&L - _7259-B Palage St., Bingawan, slotte, \$000 sq.m., P 957 000 00

Res' lot - L20 83 Greenfeld Subd., Cubey, Joro, Rollo City, 311 sq.m. P1,324,000.00 Res¹ lot L2 B20 Brgy, Cuntiero, Jaro, Ilalio City, 329 eq.m., P400,000.00 KALIBO/AKLAN

Res¹ tot - L.F-2-0-3 Vizoarra Subd., Brgy. Andegao, Kelibo, Aluen, 1012 sq.m., P.811,000.00

Rest Lot. Bo. Julia, Libeced Akken, 12782 sq.m., P189,000.00 OZAMIS/DAVAO/MAIH, ILUSTRE, STAANA

Res'l loi- Aurora Quezon St., Brgy. 26-C, Daveo City, 115 sq.m., ₱ 719,000.00 Res¹ tot-Poblacion St., Sto. Tomas, Daviso City, 400 eq.m., P 200,000.00 Rest lot- Lt. 83. Bo. Magnum, Tegum, Davad City, 300 aq.m., P132,000 Resiliot-Lot 8, 50k 9, Sc. Magnum, Tegum, Davido City, 380 eq.m., P114,000.00 GENERAL SANTOS/SOUTH COTOBATO

Rest L1-D Salvani St., Barrio Calumpang, Ganeral Santos City, 1,311 nq.m., P2,480,015.32

Real tol-Barrio Calumpang, General Sanios City, 541aq.m., P1.023.408.31

Past - .245-A. National Highway, Poblacion, Tupi, South Cotabato, 125 sq.m.. P737.000.00 Res'l fol - L3 837 Campia Homes Subd.

Purok2, Katangawan, Lagao General Santos City. 203 sq.m. P352.000.00 **BUKIDNON (MARAMAG/VALENCIA)**

Res¹ foi - Lot 24, 514, Valencia City, 180 sq.m., P 124,000.00

Res" lot - Lot 1053-A-6, Poblacion, Suxidnon, 800 ag.m., P 600.000.00 Res'l lot - Lot 216-M, Poblacion, Valencia City. 400 sq.m., P208,000.00 Res¹ tot - Lot 182-G-FH, Lambo, Valencia City, 700 sq.m., P 315,600,00 Res1 fot + Lot 162-G-t-) Lumbo, Velencia City, 762 sq.m., P 352,000.00 Resⁿ tot Lot 162-G-I-K Lumbo, Velencia City, 757 sq.ms., P 341,000.00

Rest tot - Lot 182-G-I-L Lumbo, Valencia City, 613 sq.m., P 276,000.00 Resillot - Lot 182-G--- M Lumbo, Valencia City, 650 sq.m., P 293,000.00

Res¹ fot - Let 162-G-I-N Lumbo, Valencia City, 862 eq.m., P 366,000.00 Res* lot - Lot 162-G-I-P Lumbo, Valencia City, 121 eq.m., P 55,000.00

CAGAYAN DE ORD Res1 H&L - Kauswagan, Brgy 59, Cogayan de Oro, 2,120 eq.m. P3.973,000.00 Res1 H&L- Fether Mesterson St. Carman, Cagayan de Oro, 334 squit., P1,100,000.00 Commit lot - Lot 4 Bik 9 Nazareth, Cageyan de Oro City, 240 aq.m., P1,680,000.00

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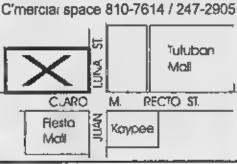
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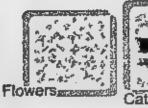
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Manila Memorial Park: The Plus Factor

Ever the pioneer and innovator in the industry, the Mantia Memorial Park once again leads the way with its new offerings the Memorials Plus. The first and targest memorial park in the engatry is now making its vast experience and resources in the Geld available to its toyal patrons, by making "memorial services more memorable and stress-free '

n this most emotional and volatile time in their lives. Park pairons will be allowed to relax and focus up the more important facels of the memorial service because the Park will take care of all the aitry-grity details.

These details, after all, shouldn't take earther second of their precious tame. As part of a special package. Memorials Plus covers such thoughtful amenities and services as: catering,

Rowers, bailtoons, photo and video coverage, music, informent band, and horse-drawn carriage. Memorials Plus seeks to provide whatever poignant detail that would "make an interment or cremation

ceremony truly unforgenable. Memorials Plus can also be availed of for death antiversaries, birthdays, 9-day and 40-day commemorations,

and other special dates. Without a doubt, Manila Mensovial Park, after 40 success-filled and award-winning years in the ladasary, has earned a well-tasserved repetation for excellence in terms of service and customer satisfaction.

For more information and for arrangements, please get in touch with any of the Park's Memorial Servicing Officers, Call: 893-8370 or 8938374 to 77 loc. 228





HUGO C. YONZON, Jr.,

HOLY MASSES WILL BE OFFERED ON OCTOBER 17, ON THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS PASSING AWAY, AT THE FOLLOWING CHURCHES:

| OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH | .7:00 am |
|---|----------|
| ST MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH NARITA CITY, CHIBA KEN | ?:30 am |
| HOLY FAMILY CHAPEL FRUNVEST 1. QUEZON CITY | 10:00 ли |
| ST PATRICK CHURCH NAGASAKI, IIJIHMA KU, TOKYO | |
| TI RATSUKA CATHOLIC CHURCH KANAGAWA PRIJECTURE, MIRATSUKA CITY | 2:00 PM |
| STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH GLARY BLVD., SAN FRANCISCO, U.S.A | 4:30 PM |

MARY IMMACULATE CHURCH MOONWALK, LAS PINAS CITY8:00 PM

ST. PAUL CHURCH CONCEPCION, MARKINA.....





ANGELINA ARCHIJA LATONIO, M.D. of Philam Homes, Quezon City UP College of Medicine - Class 1946

wife of FELIPE C. LATONIO, SR. (†) Pencefully joined her Creator on October 15, 2004 at the age of 83.

Her bereaved sons - Enrique, Conrado and Felipe Jr and daughter - Angela, daughters-in-law; grandchildren; brother and sister; nephews and meces; relatives and friends mourn her passing and request prayers for her eternal repose.

Her body lies in state at the Sta. Rita de Cascia Parish Church in Philam Homes, Quezon City Masses will be said daily at 7 p.m.

Funeral Mass will be on Wednesday, October 20, 2004 at 7 p.m. Cremation and a Mass will be on Thursday, October 21, 2004, 9 a.m. at Funeraria Paz. Interment will follow at the Sta. Rita de Cascia Parish Church Crypt.





"Memory is a way of holding onto the persons you love, the person you are, the love ones you never want to lose."

The INQUIRER NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS brings forth - Memories - a tabloid-sized supplement to be published on October 29, 2004 in time for the remembrance of our beloved loved ones.

This supplement will be dedicated to pre-need plans, funeral homes, memorial parks and other product/services related to death care. This endeavor will give you a chance to showcase your product lines and the attributes that your services offer.

| AD SIZE | RATES |
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Suscipe me, Domine, secundum eloquium el vivam, et non confudas me ab exspectatione mea. - PS. 116, v. 116

PAX

DOM AKSELMO ESWERO EVETENTE, O.S.B.

A monk of the Abbey of Our Lady of Montserral, Manila, strengthened by the sacraments, died on October 15, 2004 at the age of 76, in the 53rd year of his monastic

The Rt Rev Tarcisio Ma. Narciso, OSB, Abbot, and the monks of the Abbey of Our Lady of Montserrat, his brothers and sisters: Recaredo Evidente, Sr., Felix Evidente, Encarnacion and Marianito Perocho, Sister Josephine, D.C., Lolita Garin Evidente, Elipteria Ecube Evidente, and Isabelita Acosta Evidente, nieces, nephews, and other retatives, and his fellow workers, administrators, faculty, and service personnel of San Beda College, request their friends to join them in their prayors for his eternal rest

His remains he in state at the Nacional Memorial Homes, Chapel 3-B, and will be transferred to the Abbey Church at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 18 The Office of the Dead will be celebrated for him on Tuesday, October 19 The Punera, Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, October 20 at 9:00 in the morning at the Abbey Church, after which his remains will be cremated at Funeraria Paz Crematory (Araneta Ave.). His ashes will be reposed at the Abbey Cemetery





Remembered in Joye

ON THE OCCASION OF THE

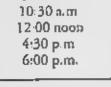
13TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF

MAUREEN NAVARRO HULTMAN

TODAY, OCTOBER 17, 2004

MASSES WILL BE HELD AT SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO, FORBES PARK, MAKATI

> 6 30 a.m. 7:45 a.m. 9 00 a.m







We, the family of

MARIA ELENA P. BITANGA

who passed away on October 6, 2004.

wish to express our deepest gratitude to all of you who offered prayers, sent flowers and spiritual offerings, kept vigil with us and in immeasurable ways were just there when we needed it most.



AIDA S. PERO of Calinog, Baile

Peacefully joined our Lard on October 12, 2004.

Her hashaul Paterno, sons Ruei, Elmer and Delby grandchildren Ruby Falth, Sean Excel, app. Stephen and other relatives request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of her soul. Her remains lie in state at the family

residence in Roads Street, Calinog, Itolio Internent will be on Saturday, October 23. 2004 after the 2:00 p.m. Mass at the Callact Parish Church.

(3) PHEY

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."

- John 3:16



ATTY, JOSE M. LOZANO

As long as the memory lives in the heart, it remains forever abve-

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St. Bondace Parish Church - San Francisco, Callifornila
Natre Dume de Lourdes Parish - Cagnitian, BC Conada
Our Lody Queen of the World Church - Bay Pount, Californila Pape Plus XII Parish Church, Cayapo Nucca Rela HIS WILE, ATTY TOSEFA LOZANDI CHILDREN JOSE A, JOSEFA I & RIC RODA

9:30 a.m. 17 Oct 11 00 a.m. 600 am & 900 am His wite, ATTY TOSEFA LOZANDI children JOSE J., JOSEFA I. & RIC RODA, JOSEFA III & WITTE CUPJANO, JOSE IV & BECKY JOSE V. & JOYCE, JOSEFA IV & ROLANDO TAGAY, JOSE Y & LUDITH and JOSEFA V. & BUDDY DE ESLES grandchildren PJ & TRACY, PAULA, RICKY, MARIEL, CLOE, INICO, CHR S, BRIAN, OSFFII, JACOB, JOSTILA, CHARLES, MICRELE, JANINA, JILLIANA, JENNA, JORJA & BRIAN and grost grandchild, JAILYN request the ploas readers and those whose lives for his logicist to renumber Taray in your proyers on his toph Death Annovomery, 18 October 2004.

600 n m. Oct. 18

6:15 a.m.

6.30 a.m.

630 a.m.

7:00 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

6:15 p.m.

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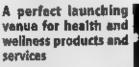
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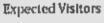
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Beyoncé: A true star

Story on page C3

BEYONCE with Tommy Hillager





The sizzling multi-Grammy performer is even more beautiful in person, with a disarming, warm smile and a shy, little-girl-like demeanor

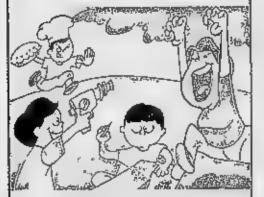




ARTWORK by Charriol



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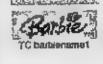
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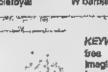




















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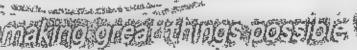


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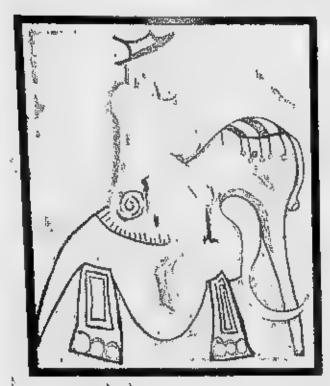
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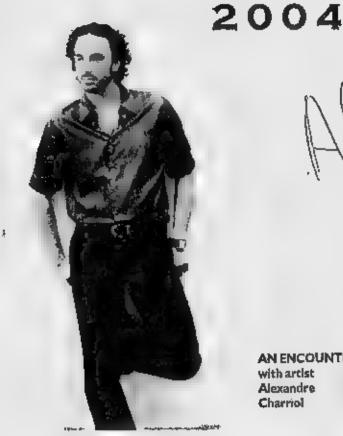
Sunday LIFESTYLE

A EXANDRE CHARRIOL



The scion of the luxury watch house is in Manila to exhibit color-rich canvases





Marsial



MANILA MODE, Casual finds him wearing short-sleeved tee and black slacks by Calvin Klein and Ardililon belt from Charriol.

AN ENCOUNTER with artist Alexandre Charmol

This Charriol paints

Text by Alex Y. Vergara Photos by Chito Vecina

day of French-American painter Alexandre Charriol's exhibit at the Ayala Museum today, you can still have a chance to see the man and his works up close and personal. "Encounters," his first one-man show in Manila, will continue its run tomorrow until Wednesday at the Gallery of the Peninsula Mania.

Better bring your cameras, ladies, as the boyishly handsome artist promises to grace the opening night. For serious art collectors, however, we advise you not to dillydally, as Charriol's paintings have been selling fast. His newfound fans have snapped up 17 of his 20 paintings barely a day after his show opened at the Ayala

The artist, who has had the chance to exhibit his works in New York, London, Sydney and Hong Kong, is amazed at the warm reception his art has been getting from Filipinos. The success he's been enjoying so far in Manila is unprecedented.

"I'm very happy that Fil.pinos seem to appreciate my art and have taken it to a new level," says Charriol, 25, who cites such painters as Basquiat, Picasso and Matisse among his influences. "They're probably fond of colors and the humor."

If the success of the show is any indication, it won't take long for Charnol to find buyers for his second batch of paintings.

Either Fil.pinos love his art-which has been variously described as bright, colorful, energenc, humorous and interactive-or they can't seem to have enough of him and his good looks.

Pedigree

Perhaps his pedigree also helps. After all, he's the son of Philippe Charriol, founder of the French luxury brand of watches, jewelry, leather goods and fashion accessories that carries the family's

"Maybe that helps," he smiles styly. "A good name never hurts."

Don't expect him, however, to join the family business anytime soon. Unlike most scions of prominent families, Charriol does Y N CASE you can't make it to the last not feel any pressure. On the contrary, his parents have given him free rein to pursue his passion for painting, which he "discovered" at the late age of 17

"I was never into art until one day, out of boredom, I picked up some pad and color pencils and started to draw," he says. "Everything evolved from there."

Nor does Chamiol feel the weight of living up to such an illustrious name. If anything, he sees it more as an advantage, as it motivates him to give his very best in everything he does, it opens doors and, if the warm response to his exhibit is any indica-

NO TIME FOR LOVE. The artist wears an Actor Tonneau watch from the Charriol collection.





He goes rugged in brown long-sleeved top and jeans, both from Diesel. Tod's moccasins and

Charriol Columbus ring and bangle are model's

CLOTHES STORES SPECIALIST INC. BUSTAN'S MAKEUP AND GROOPING SHOT ON LOCATION AND GREENBELT PARK

UP, UP AND AWAY.

The artist shows up at the Ayala Museum incognito in violet jacket, yellow shirt and pair of jeans, all from Diesel. The black leather messenger bag is

from Charriol. dabbled in modeling as a child. In fact,

He never had his chance to debut on the catwalk, as he became too preoccupied with his art. "Besides," he adds, "It's really not my field." But for Inquires Lifestyle, he didn't mind slipping into the latest clothes from

It wasn't the cati of fame that lured him,

but the chance of earning "easy money."

"Now I have a problem," he says goodnaturedly as he was coaxed constantly to

to, Filipino. when he was 19 he signed up with an agency in New York to give modeling a try.

> "I speak 21/2 languages," he beams. "I've been working on my Tagalog ever since t arrived." Don't bother coaching him on the unprintable words. Already he knows

E-mail the author at avergara@mquir-



ROOTED. He savors the setting sun in a long-sleeved shirt and khakl pants

by Calvin Klein,

tion, makes other people more receptive to what he says and does.

"My family has been very supportive," he says. "They've asked me many times to join them, but they know this is what I want to do. I don't think I'll ever drop my art because I can always do both [paint and join the family business]. But right now, I want to give 100 percent of myself to my art and give myself a chance to succeed.'

Older sister Coralie is one of the company's bag designers and the chief publicist. Alexandre helps in a limited capacity as a

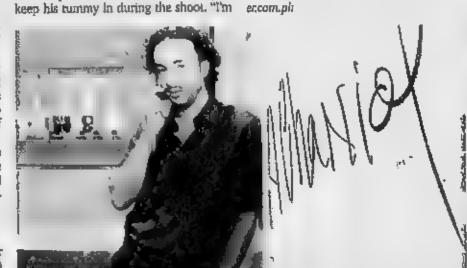
"I'm not completely out of it," he says, but they always make it a point to ask my

Although most of his views are art-related, Charriol can't see himself designing lewelry pieces some day. He finds the medium too small, its requirements too delicate. Painting will always be his chief form of expression.

"I like to paint big," says Charriol, who studied at Tufts Boston Museum of Pine Arts and the Parsons School of Design. "I usually paint on canvas using mixed media, primarily acryuc and pastel."

Model

He doesn't mind occasionally posing for pictures, though, something he and Coralle have been exposed to ever since they were kids. They had no choice as their mom, Annick, is a photographer. Atex also



CONNECTED. He keeps in touch with family and close friends wherever he goes. Striped shirt and black slacks by Kenneth Cole





Don't be surprised if Charriol looks a little darker tomorrow compared to his pictures. He recently had a brief R&R in Boracay with a friend. Not a girlfriend, for the

open to doing other things to advance my

been bewitched by the Frenchman. "I have many girlfriends, one per block," he winks. "Kidding aside, I just got

benefit of the curious and those who have

out of a two-year relationship and I'm not looking for anything serious right now." And what will make him put down his brush and easel, if only temporarily?

"It won't be an easy one," he says, "as my ideal girl must be self-motivated, deremnined, organized, humorous, elegant and beautiful. I never set boundaries. If the chemistry is there, I guess I will roll

That means Filipinas have a likely chance of capturing Charriol's heart.

But they better be wary of what they say, as this foreigner knows a smattering of Filipino. He and Coralie were partly raised by Lita A.berto, a Filipina housekeeper, as the family traveled and lived in various parts of the world.

Aside from English, he's fluent in French and understands some Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Chinese and, thanks to Alber-

Charriol says Pilipinos are hardworking, kind and loving people who can adapt easily to change. Alberto is still with the family, and is now based in London. She has also learned how to speak French. The Charriol kids now live most of the time in New

most of them by heart.

Beyoncé: A true star

HEN I was informed I was going to meet and have an exclusive interview with Beyoncé and Tommy Hilfiger (for the INQUIRER and Tatler), I thought it was an invitation too good to refuse

Not only because it was set in New York City. but also because I would come face-to-face with one of international fashion's front runners and his current muse, the most celebrated pop divaof her generation. It would be a once-in-a-lifetime event.

Months before I was to seave for the interview, I told my friends about it and some even asked if they could carry my bags so they could meet her. Beyonce has such a hold on this generation's psyche with her beauty, body, incredsbie voice and dance moves. (Who can really dance in those four-inch heeis?)

Larger-than-life fame

At 23, this singer and actress has been catapulted to larger-than-life, one-name status. She has soid millions of records and performed to soid-out stadiums. She is currently working on the latest Destiny's Child album, which will have its worldwide debut in November, as well as filming the much awaited remake of "The Pink Panther" in London, with Steve Martin.

As if that's not enough, she is also busy preparing for an upcoming clothing line with her mom, and being the face of her own signature fragrance from Tommy Hilfiger called True

For the saunch, Tommy and Beyoncé first flew to the island of Mustique in the Caribbean, then to London and the United States. Over a hundred press people from South America, Asia and the Linted States were invited to the launch, which took place in an art gallery that was transformed into an all-white lounge café/baz

Before Beyoncé was introduced, a TV ad was played which had her singing à cappella Royce's "Wishing on a Star." Then she walked in, resplendent in a white tank top and long skirt, with matching major bling-blings that seemed to compete with her stellar presence. She and Tommy spoke and introduced the fragrance to a caphyated audience. Afterward, they gamely mingled and partied with the crowd.

The next day was my scheduled one-on-one interview, and it was done in Tommy's head office, near Bryant Park. His office is a five-story building that reeks of a blend of Old World and modern elegance. I was accompanied by Sharyn Wong, Estée Lauder and La Mer's genera, brand manager for Asia.

I first shook hands with Tommy. Then, from the corner of my eye, I spotted her. Beyonce was even more beautiful in person, with a disarming, warm smile and a shy little girl like de-" meanor She apologized for the plate of tuna sandwich before her but since she hadn't had lanch no apology was needed. She was definitety svelte, with curves and hips would make J.Lo jeaious! She was simply flawless and hot!

Power and charisma

Tommy said he decided to haunch a new women's fragrance about a year ago to keep up with fashion trends, and he had Beyonce in mand from the beginning.

"I met Beyoncé many years ago, when she was just starting out, and even then you could not deny her talent and her star quality. I wanted her because for me a true star is someone with lasting power, someone who is original and with iots of star charisma. I find all of those qualities in her," he said

True Star, the resulting scent, was personally approved by Beyoncé. She said she had 946 different notes and scents to choose from before she and Tommy agreed on this final product.

"The scent is really very individualistic and very sexy. What I like about it is, it's very elegant and sensual at the same time," she said.

Packaging the scent was another matter. "We wanted to take Beyoncé and really show her in a way she had not been seen before by consumers and her fans. So when we told her we wanted something more intimate and casual, she was all for it. The [ad] photos show her just having some time for herself at home," ex-



THE AUTHOR with Sharyn Wong, Esten Lauder and La Mer's general brand manager for Asia



TRENDS & TRENDINGS

Anton San Diego plained Tommy

Asked about her future plans, Beyonce said her biggest dream is to do a big musical. "I love to dance, I love to act, and to combine both and match them with costumes would be amazing."

Her last words about True Star? "I am just honored to have such an opportunity, and I love that I did it because it smells really great and I'm sure everyone will love it!"

She wants to eat 'adobo'!

After the interview, I had a chance for a photo-op with Tommy and Beyoncé. I asked her the obligatory "when are you coming to the Philip-

pines" question. Her answer? "I am dying to go to the Philippines. I want to taste adobo!"

I was so shocked with her response! So I quickly asked her where she had heard of Fil-

"I have heard so much about the Philippines from my makeup artist, Mally Roncal. She is my dear friend and she talks about the Philippines so much. You must meet her, she is actually here!" she said.

Tommy interjected, "After this, I will introduce you to her."

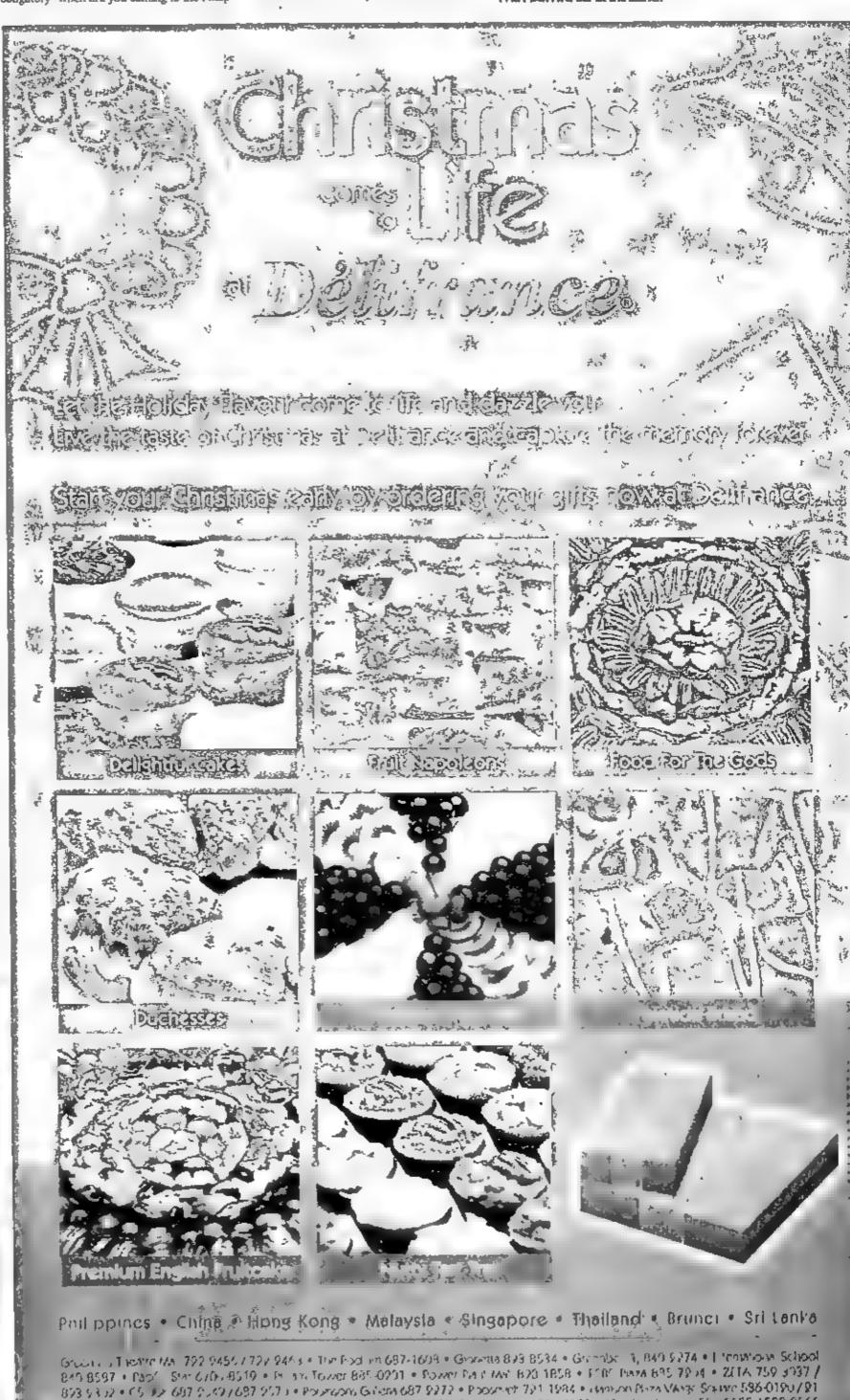
As I was leaving, Tommy whispered in my ear, "Can I speak with you?" Wow, my heart sumped and my mind raced. Was he going to ask me to model for him (some people can dream, no?), or better yet, work for him?

Next week: What Ibmmy Hilfiger wanted from me. And meet one of New York's most sought-after makeup stylists, who happens to be a

True Star perfume, body and bath line are available at Rustan's Department Store.



THE MARTINI bar at the launch



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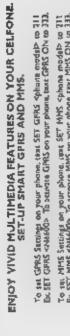












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BRATZ dolls and a Barbie Doll

The Hot Dozen list is an annual forecast of which toys will be the most popular and hardest to find this holiday

season

They're back!

NEW YORK-Retro toys Patch Kids made the "Hot previewing holiday products. Dozen" list released recently by Toy Wishes magazine.

The list is the magazine's annual dozen "kid demoniforecast of which toys will be the the toys in action. most popular this holiday season-and the hardest to find.

doll Barbie and mupper Elmo, and show were the Bratz fashion dolls an educational video game system by MGA Entertainment.

like a Ms Pac-Man video- an event bosted by the Toy Indusgaming package and the try Association in New York, with 1980s favorite Cabbage about 60 manufacturers in booths about 60 manufacturers in booths

> crowded showroom, and about a dozen "kid demonstrators" showed

showing portable electronic de "Hot Dozen" stalwarts, fashion vices, said her favorite items at the fun, good creative toys," said Jim

"You can change their cothes The list was unveiled as part of and feet. Right now, I like them

more than the others," she said. The Bratz Dance N' Skate Club landed on the list.

Getting a spot on a hot toy list Reporters, toy experts and some can help propel a smaller company executives milled through the into stardom, and even mega-toymakers like Mattel Inc. or Hasbro Inc. can benefit from the buzz.

"A list like this brings the focus Nicole Morsen, a 12 year old away from some of the .ssues the industry is facing and puts it on

THEY'RE BACK/ D6



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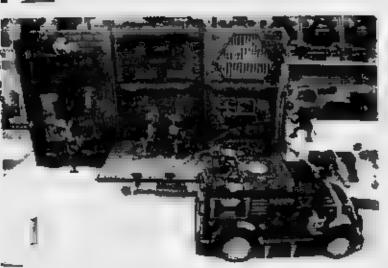
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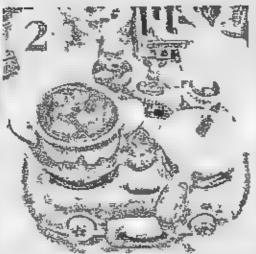
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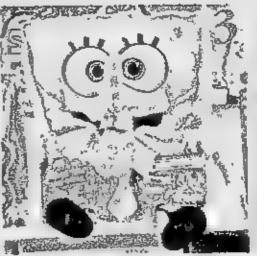
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Sunday LIFESTYLE





season



MARVIE Samala, Ban Kee Trading marketing manager, with Disney Princess Dancing Cinderella

BAN KEE Trading popular toy items: 1. Ninja Turtie Lair Playset; 2. Winnie the Pooh's kitchen playset; 3. Cuddly SpongeBob; 4. Mickey's Fun Time Refrigerator; 5. Adorable Egyore

Text by Vangie Baga-Reyes Photos by Roger Carpio

E are into the "ber" months, which means the toy-shopping holiday frenzy is about to begin. This was proven true during the recent toys and gift trade shows held by two big

names in the toy industry.

Puntastic Int'l. Inc. and Ban Kee Trading

Inc. staged its trade show to launch the latest imported toys, games, accessories and novelty gift items. At the Garden Ballroom of Edsa

Shangri-La Hotel, guests were greeted by a myriad of sights and sounds. Ban Kee's robots, witch dolls, baby aliens and hightech mun remote-controlled action figures vied for attention.

According to Marvie Samala, marketing, advertising and promotions manager of Ban Kee Trading Inc. (tel. 3719978), the show previewed its 2004-2005 collection of toys and accessories from the world's giant toy manufacturers and li-

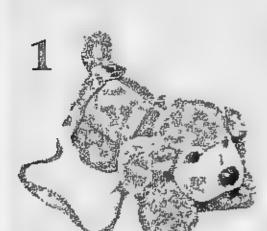
The one-day exhibit featured an interesting mix of new toys that stood out for their noverry and functionality.

Easily a crowd-drawer was Cy-bug (Kabuto), one of the newest battle toys from Tomy. The custom-built battle action cyber bugs came in three designs, with each design sporting two colors. It moved by flywheel, thus no need for barteries.

Another sensational new product from Tomy was the Microid, the latest mini remotecontrolled toys that were representations of fictional ancient guardians of the earth. The toys were small enough to fit in the pocket.

Remember Tamagochi, the lovable tiny per from cyberspace that became a big hit with millions of kids in the late '90s? These baby aliens from Bandai are making a big comeback in better exciting and high-tech ways

Children could relive the Tamagochi craze with the new infrared feature of the toy, the newly acquired technology which would enable them to connect instantaneously with





REX Asandas Daryanani, president of Funtastic International, with adult-size dog plush slippers



Trade fairs show the latest in toy technology and gadgetry

other Tamagochi toys. Kids could make friends, play games, exchange gifts and maybe find a partner, and eventually produce "tamababtes."

Another new toy explored the magical and mystical world of the occult. It introduced Will, Irma, Taranee, Cornelia and Hay Lin, five young girls with distinct personalities and powers. Collectively dubbed as Witch dolls, they took off from Disney's comic book teenage witch characters. The 7unch dooks are collectable items.

These new toy lines and brands will be released in the market soon with the latest items from other top-selling brands such as Bratz, Zoids, Gundam and Power Rangers.

Fantastic Barbies

Held at Club Filipeno, the two-day Funtastic Int'l. trade show was attended by major toy dealers, department store and toy shop owners and marketing executives and distributors from all over the country.

Now on its fourth year, Funtastic featured an impressive line of its specially designed products, from picture frames of different styles, colors and texture, to rug dolls, stuffed toys, girl's hair accessories, jewelty boxes, cosmetic kits, pillows, bubble machines and colorful figurines.

It also showcased mechanical toys, action figures, hobby toys, model construction, and baby toys and products.

According to Rex Asandas Daryanani, president of Funtastic Int'l (tel. 8711573 to 77), all its toys and gift collections are designed in the Philippines and manufactured in China.

But It was the all-new Barbie gifts and novelty items that were swept off the shelves. Lucky for us, we got the exclusive license

to create a whole line of Barbie's gift stuff," said Daryanani. Among the top sellers in the Barbie collection, which is either made of wood and poly-

scone, were Barbie's trinket boxes, mini drawers with Barbie face on top, Barbie clock and Barbie flower drawer pulis.



"Barbie has a captive market, and so it wasn't hard for us to push this to our clients," said Daryanani.

Educational value

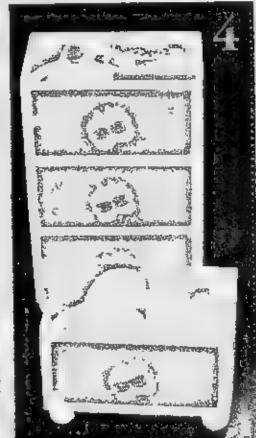
With all these exciting toys, do Funtastic and Ban Kee care about their educational value and purpose?

Yes, both do.

For Funtastic and Bankee, toys serve an important purpose. Children will find value and education from a toy or game that provides enjoyment.

"Speaking from a mother's point of view, I believe that through play and games, children will discover and practice important skills. Children learn about shapes, sounds, colors and numbers," Samala said.

She added that with toys. children also learn how to share and get along with other children, improve their manual dexterity and eye-hand coor-



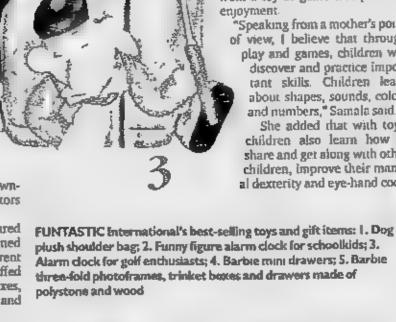
Samala cited the firm's Gundam model kit from Bandai. "It has well-tooled kit parts that can be snapped together," she said. "The pieces are molded in appropriate colors that even impatient kids can end up with a goodlooking action figure. Kids' parents can help out create the model. It can be a good bonding time to them."

The toys are safe, "When we design toys or even before ordering a certain toy, we make sure that everything is safe for the users," said Daryanani.

For the company, a good toy should be clean, non-toxic and non-infiammable, it should be large enough not to be swallowed or chewed off.

"We really make it a point that our toys are free from sharp points or cutting edges or splinters that would injure the kids," Daryanani seid.

E-mail the author at vbaga@inquirencom.ph



Sunday LIFESTYLE

UST Arts and Letters grand alumni homecoming to honor jubilarians

A REUNION of alumni of the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters (Philets), Co.lege of Libera. Arts, and Faculty of Arts and Letters (Artlets) of the University of Santo Tomas will be held on Nov. 30 at the Manila Hotel.

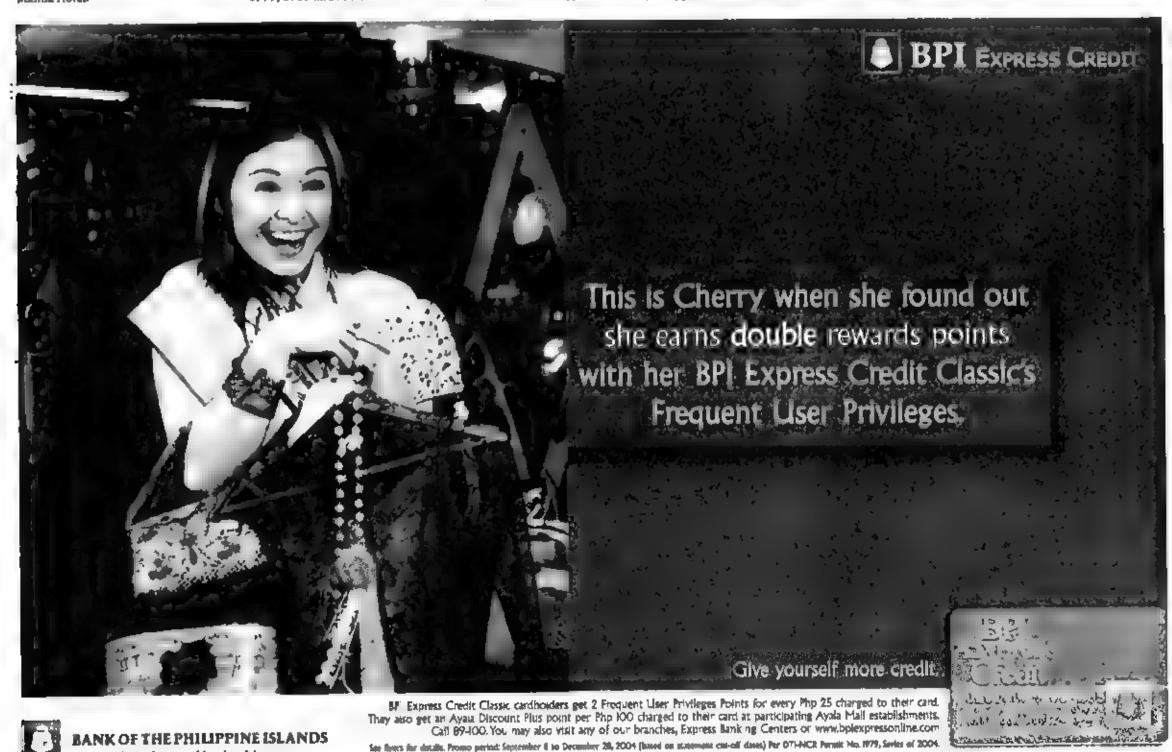
A tradition of leadership

The reunion will mark the ruby anniversary (40th year) of the merger between Philets and Liberal Arts into the present Artlets. Jubilarians-those who graduated in 1954, 1964, 1974, 1984, 1979, 1989 and 1994-will be honored.

1954, Chit Syquia-Almario (0917-6977009); for 1964, Josephine Acosta-Pasricha (8137912) and Roger Obusan (8995697); for 1974, Nestor Cuartero

The jubilee coordinators are: for batch Aguilar (0917-9780800) and Emmanuel Call the organizing committee: Lino 54, Chit Syquia-Almario (0917- Lopez (0919-8544071), for 1984, Nick Baron (7314003/3101 or 4061611 loc. Alviar (0919-5056292) and Clarence Aytona (0918-9039510); for 1989, John Kliathcko (0917-4369060); and for Roger Buhay (6471076, 6471270 or (0917-9605986); for 1979, Peppin 1999, Reynald Trillana (0917-5367464).

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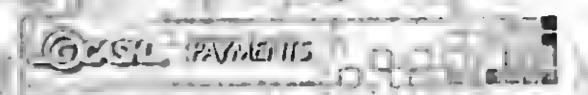
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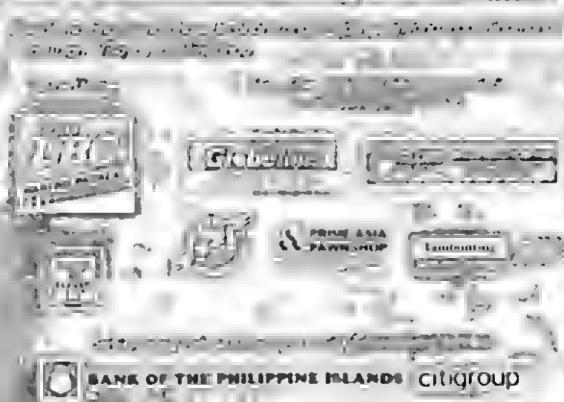
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Sunday LIFESTYLE

The 'Hot Dozen' list



RUGRATS' Chuckle and Angelica during the Worldwide Day of Play at the Adidas Sports Kamp

'No TV day' for kids

THE ADIDAS Sports Kamp in Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, was transformed into a dream playground for kids in celebration of "Let's Just Play! Worldwide Day of Play," Nickelodeon's global campaign that promotes physical activity, team spirit, fitness and healthy lifestyles.

in an unprecedented move, Nickelodeon went "dark" for the first time in its history in selected markets, on Oct. 2, 2-4 p.m., preempting the channel's regular programming to air messages encouraging kids to switch off their television sets and get out of the house to play and have fun.

More than a thousand kids, accompanied by parents and guardians, registered and got a free "Let's Just Play!" T-shut and other souvenirs. Hosts were Noel de la Rosa and Issa Litton.

At the Rocket Power Park, kids slid, bounced, tugged and raced their way to giant slime-filled in-

ACROSS

flatables such as the Bungee Run, Slime Slide, Stratus Volleyball, Trampoline Bungee, Veloro Wall and the Slime Dunking Pool. Others joined the obstacle course and The Wild Thornberries Adventure Race, Rock Climbing and skateboarding, Milo Olympians did amazing stunts in the basketball, gymnastics and taekwondo exhibitions. National tackwondo champ Japoy Lizardo demonstrated his winning moves and posed for photographs.

Other kids found their way to Nick's Kicks, Batter Up, Tricks for Nicks, Chaikaholics and The Great Hose Down.

Experts from the National Nutrition Council (NNC) and the Sports Rehab Kamp (SRK) answered questions on food and health in "Fitness for Misfits."

A special concert until 8 p.m. featured Angelica and Chucke of the Rugrats with some of the hortest stars, like Ella, Karylle, and bands Still Oz and DRT kept the groove pumping.

Nick fans in the Philippines were joined by kids in Singapore, Malaysia, India and the United States in celebrating the Worldwide Day of Play.

THE MOST desirable toys of the season (in alphabetical order)

Balloon Lagoon-A carnival-based board game in which kids collect balloons, flip frogs in a pond and fish for letters in a take, By Cranium.

Barbie as Princess Anneliese and Erika-Barbie plays two roles in "The Princess and the Pauper." Each doll sings songs from the score of the computer-animated movie, released on DVD and VHS in late September. By Mattel.

Bella Dancerella-A complete ballet studio that includes costumes, ballet accessories and a video. By SpinMaster.

Bratz Tokyo-A-Go-Go Dance N' Skate Club-Bratz fashion dolls hit the retro disco, complete with working speakers, a roller rink and light-up dance floor. By MGA Entertainment.

Cabbage Patch Kids—The popular '80s one-of-a-kind adoptable doll is back. By Play Along.

E-L-M-O---*Sesame Street* character Elmo sings and dances the E-L-M-O, to the tune of the Village People song "YMCA." By Mattel unit Fisher-Price.

InteracTV-Preschoolers watch a spe-"Blue's Clues" and "Dora the Explorer" of crash. By Radica Games Ltd.



AT THE ripe old age of 45, Barbie was knocked off her perch by streetwise upstart Bratz at the Dream Toys 2004 exhibition.

"SpongeBob SquarePants" and use a remote control to interact with characters within the episode. By Fisher-Price.

Ms Pac-Man TV Games-A joystick console with classic games, including Ms Pac-Man, Galaga and Pole Position, that plugs into the TV By Jakks Pacific Inc.

Nitro Battlerz-Customizable remote cial DVD with episodes of shows like control cars that race with each other and

Tamagotchi Connection-An updated version of the virtual pet with different modes of play, new pets and wireless interaction. By Bandai Co. Ltd.

VideoNow Color-A color version of last year's kid-size personal video player.

VTech VSmile-An educational video game system for kids 3-7 years old, By VTech Holdings.

They're back!

Silver, co-publisher of Toy Wishes magazine. He acknowledged the list helps "feed the frenzy."

Make-or-break time

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theresiter

Toy makers and sellers depend on the holiday season for most of their profits. Roughly 50 percent of toy sales are rung up in the fourth quarter alone, according to The NPD Group, a New York-based market information company.

"It's been a slow toy year. Entertainment and electronics have become a major alternative for children," said Tim Bender, president of educational toy maker LeapFrog Enterprises Inc.'s global consumer group.

"LeapProg can benefit because our products have an electronic element. It will be interesting to see how it plays out."

Last year's holiday season was marked by intense price-cutting among toy sellers. Discounters like Wal-Mart Stores Inc. slashed prices on hot items, and specialty toy stores

Competitive pricing was blamed for the bankruptcies of KB Toys and FAO Inc., parent of FAO Schwarz toy stores, leading to hundreds of store closings. Even industry leader Toys R Us Inc. posted weak holiday sales and is in the midst of a company-wide restructuring.

Toy Wishes' Silver said he doesn't expect such a cutthroat pricing environment thus

year. "We might see it on some isolated items, but I don't think you'll have the slashing of prices and toy wars we had last year," he said. "Vendors and retailers realized that it hurt everyone in the industry."

Tim Kilpin, senior vice president of girls' marketing and design for Mattel, said he still doesn't know what to expect this year, "but I'd like to believe that pricing on toys will be favorable. It's still very competitive out there."

Toy Wishes will help air a televised toy awards show in December. Consumers can vote on their favorite toys on the Toy Wishes (www.toywishes.com) or Toys R Us (www.toysrus.com) websites,

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Checkmated at 75

By Eufemia C. Estrada Contributor

I STARTED writing for a publication at age 50; wrote a weekly cooking column for the defunct Mamia Chronicle at 52 (1991) and for the Ix-OURER at 65 (1994); had two cookbooks published, one at 68 ("Kusina ni EC," 1997) and the second at 72 ("Baking Made EC," 2001); and now, albeit reluctantly, I am learning to play chess at 75.

I must be what is known as a late

I had never ever tried to play the game, which was pure Greek to me. I do crossword puzzles and play Monopoly, Boggle, Scrabble, variety games like Cryptograms, Syllacrostics, Word Seek, Double Trouble etc. But chess? Nevet.

That is, not until 7-year-old Noel, home afternoons from half-day classes at the Ateneo, picked me, my daily errands done by early afternoon, to be a reluctant sparring partner.

All I knew about the game was the goal was to capture the king. How to go about it was a complex puzzle that Noel valiantly tried to unravel for me. "I will reach you," be assured me.

Noel learned to play chess from his dad at age 6. Here I am learning it from him at 75.

Noel proceeded to teach me to identify the 16 pieces on each side of the board. It took some time before I was able to rell which piece was the king, which the queen, the bishop, the knight-the mnemonic clue for the last being that knights of yore rode to battle on horseback.

Constant reminding

Noel had to remind me constantly that the black queen was always set on a black square, the white queen on a white square, and that the outermost square on the right was white.

The pawn, eight pieces of them, and the two rooks I could easily identify, Imagine if Noel and I were using an American chess set with the pieces all looking like baseball players! Yes, there is such a set, I have learned, being an avid collector of curios.

Noel started by setting up the chess board for me. It was difficult for me to just "copy" his side because of the black queen on a black square rule. I graduated to doing my side on my own by "looking at the book," the DK book on chess Noel's mother had discovered and bought for him. It has



since become Noel's bible. He reads it all the time. It's the last thing he reads before going to bed, and it rests beside him, within arm's reach, while he

Teacher gives up

The time came when Noel would no longer teach me. I had to look up the answers to my questions in his chess bible. "Read. Read. Read." he would urge me, turning to the pages of the book where a question would be explained.

"I taught you that yesterday," he'd say in near despair, when I made a pawn capture an enemy piece with a forward move. "Pawns only capture diagonally!" Diagonally! I was unpressed this 7-year-old had this word in his vocabulary.

It is with great effort that I remember such details, like only the knight can jump over another piece in a letter i, the king can move in all directions but only one square at a time, while the queen can move in any direction for any number of squares. These, and other confusing moves.

With my haphazard moves I was not proving to be a worthy opponent for Noel. He was running away with most of the checkmates. I was providing him the opportunity to improve his game, but not giving him a chance chess teacher has taught.

to learn how to lose-something his summer chess reacher had tried to instill in his chess class.

Finding the right book

I decided it was time I took the game seriously, I searched high and wide for a book for beginners and waited patiently for this year's international Book Fair, where I found the one book for the likes of me-Usborne's "Starting Chess."

Anyone who knows his Usborne knows it's always a good buy, I know because my Usborne book on stamp collecting was a real help in getting me started on the hobby many years

After going through the 32 pages of "Starting Chess," I understand the nuances of the game better. Noel will no longer befuddie me with his castling. pin, en passant, fork, skewer, check or queening. No longer will I fall into the trap of a "bad swap," as I have often done in the past.

Hopefully I will hear the end of such "Noelisms" as "Oh no, you can't do that." "That move does not do anything at all." "You didn't see that?" "You're not listening," "You keep forgetting."

Rewards

So what does Noel get from his once- or twice-a-week game of chess with Lola Pemy? He gets to hone his game, develop his analytical skills, learn to plan his next move and capnire enemy pieces by using such tricks as en possont. He learns to store the chess board after a game, one of the conditions I set before agreeing to play with him. And he's learning to be more patient with the elderly's forgetfulness, "because you're old." When he does get imparient (can you really blame him?), he learns to articulate his feelings, "I'm beginning to lose my parience," white squirming in his

What do I get out of it? Bonding time with my grandnephew. And now I'm toking the game seriously. In time, I can add a new feather to my

Perhaps the day will come when Noel will agree to my rewards plan: if I win, I kiss you. If you win, you kiss me. He loves chess but, like most boys his age, he hates kissing.

As I get better at it, Noel will learn to lose and shake hands after a game-win or lose as his Ateneo



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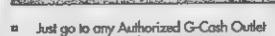


- Just go to any Globe Business Center, Globelines Payment and Service Center or any Authorized G-Cash Outlet that accepts cash-in transactions.
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- Please present a volid I.D.
- Pay the cash-in fee to the frontliner.
- Frontliner will send G-Cash to your beneficiary and give you on acknowledgement receipt (A.R.) for the transfer and an official receipt (O.R.) for the processing fee.



For as long as you have G-Cash in your cellphone, just send the following message: <amount to be sent> <M-PIN> to 2882 +
<10-digit number of recipient>

Example: 1000 1234 Send to: 2882917XXXXXXX



- which accepts cash-in transactions. Show the required identification to frontliner.
- Give the frontliner the cash plus processing fee.
- The outlet will send the G-Cash to your mobile phone number directly.

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- Example: CASHOUT 1000 1234 55558888
- Frontliner will then print on A.R. for the cash-out and on O.R. for the processing fee.
- You will then be given the cash.

B. CASHING OUT AT AN AUTHORIZED OUTLET (mobile phone to mobile phone)

- Fill up a G-Cash form.
- Present required identification to the frontliner.
- Pay the processing fee.
- Frontliner will show you the outlet's authorized mobile number
- You then send the following message:<amount to be cashed-out> of authorized outlet>
- Frontliner will then print on A.R. for the cash-out and an OR. for the processing fee.
- You will then be given the cash.

NOTE: Cash-in and cash-out fees will depend on each outlet.

Processing fee for Globe Business Center and Globelines Payments and Service Center is a flot fee of P10 for any transaction below P1,000. For transactions above P1,000, fee is 1% of the amount. Example: P10 for P1,000 amount

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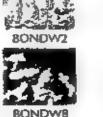
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ALL in the family: Mom of the bride Babydoll Aquino, Regina and Robert with Robert's parents, Lt. Coi. Kevin and jo Richards

AQUINO-RICHARDS NUPTIALS

Teeping an old vow and making a new one

By Maurice Arcache

🖜 IX years ago, Regina Refugio Naldo Aguino, beautiful and talented stage actress, daughter of vivacious, globetrotting Rose "Babydoll" Aquino, vice president of WorldTravel BTI in Atlanta, Georgia, vowed to marry on the same day her grandparents, the late Rep. Rafael "Pael" C. Aquino and Refugio "Puring" Aquino, made their marriage vows.

The occasion was the celebration of the go.den wedding anniversary at the Manila Cathedral of her beloved "Nana" and "Nunu."

So Regina wed her tall, handsome and successfu, financial analyst beau, Robert Anthony Richards, son of Lt. Col. Kevin and Josephine Richards of Alexandria, Virgima, on the same day at the St. Matthews Cathe-

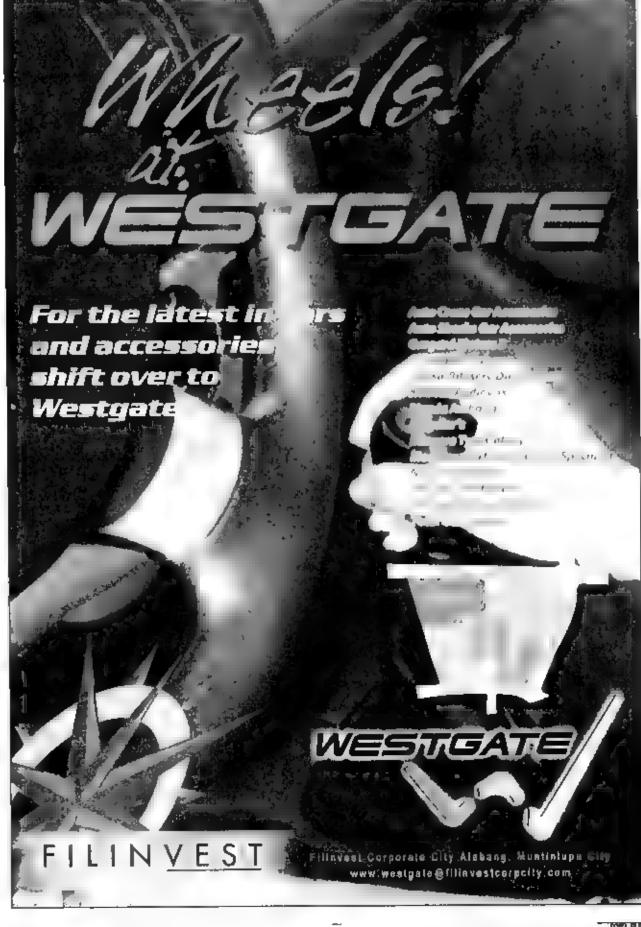
dral in Washington, D.C.

Traveling pair

Despite the bride's travels-visiting her grandparents in the Philippines, studying in New York, meeting her mother in Dubai or Atlanta-home was a ways Washington

Robert also d'd a lot of traveling, his father being in the United States military. He spent most of his life in Hawan, a few years in Singapore then went to the mainland for college. Upon graduating, he also moved to the D.C.

The couple met through a mutual pal at a Halloween party in 2002. Robert's best friend in college was Regina's old high school buddy. While they noticed each other's good looks, the timing wasn't quite right then



Globe Kababayan lets OFWs rediscover the Philippines with Flipside

The Philippines is indeed a very beautiful country. Filipinos who have been away for long periods of time can attest that our natural wonders like the Taal and Mayon Voicunoes, historical and cultural landmarks like the Banaue Rice Terraces and the Miag-au Church and on que traditions like the Peñafrancia and Masskara Festivals are comparable to, if not better, than those abroad.

Globe Kababayan, the new mobile service campaign for OFWa by innovations leader Globe Handyphone, knows how important it is for Filipinos not to lose their distinct cultura, identity despite exposure to various foreign influences while living and working away from home. That is why it is now sponsoring Physide, a new lifestyle and traver

her role as Miranda Sanchez in

the bit Disney Channel

program airing on the Living Asia Channel, locally shown through Dream Broadcasting System, Desuny, Home and other major cable operators. The Living Asia Channel can also be see 1 in Asia and North America through the Mahuhay Satellate, Globecast World TV and The Filipino Channel (TPC) Direct and even online at the ABS-CBN Interactive

Flipside is hosted by internationally renowned l'ilipino American teen idol Lalaine, best known for

> series Luzzie McGuire During the course of thirteen (13) episodes, she will take viewers on a cross country journey of discovery that will deepen and strengthen her appreciation of her parents' home country. Included in Lalsine's itinerary are location shoots in beautiful Tagaytay, the lustome walled city of Intramuros, the Manila

Chinatown, and the island paracise of Boracay. Flipside gives all Pilipinos here and abroad a chance to rediscover the charm and beauty of the Philippines long taken for granted by years of familiarity or absence. As seen from a different

truly fantastic country imbued with a magic you never thought was there.

"I fel. in love with the show's concept of a young Filipino rediscovering her roots. Although I lived in the Philippines for five years, it's been ages since I've been back. I thought hosting Flipside is a great way for me to learn about the different culture and traditions of the Ph lippines while also making it known to all of my fans of my Filipino heritage," explains Lalaine

Lazame says that she is having the time of her life re-establishing ties with her relatives, making new friends and visiting lots of new and interesting places. But every now and then she admits she experiences homesickness. So whenever she does, she grabs her

cellphone to call or text her friends back in Los Angeles. A self-confessed cellphone enthusiast, Lalaine is glad that Flipside has also incorporated a portion called Giobe

Kababayan Mobile Moments into the program. This segment allows her to use proneering Globe's International services such as International Short Message Service (ISMS) or International Multi-Media Message Service (IMMS) to tell her friends and loved ones in the U.S. of her daily acuvities from her mobile handset. Getting homenek is a reality of living away from home. A way to combat it is to have regular communication with family, friends and loved ones. That's why Globe offers a wide

array of services such as International Direct Dual (IDD), ISMS and IMMS which lets millions of Filipinos including the relatives of OFWs to stay in touch with their loved ones in whatever part of the world they may be at.

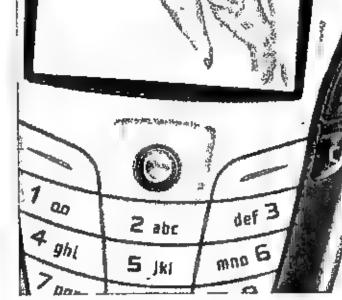
It's also worth noting that Giobe's IDD Service offers a flat rate of 40 US Cents to any destination at any time of the day. Globe also extends its superior service to tourists and balikbayans. Wherever they may be in the country, they can rest assured that Giobe's extensive nationwide coverage has got them covered

Living and working abroad is not an excuse to forget one's roots. Globe Kababayan ensures that the unique Pilipino identity and culture will remain alive in a changing global landscape through aponsorship of TV shows like Flipside and through giving OFWs abroad and their families in the Philippines communication tools which bring them closer









Mobile Moments



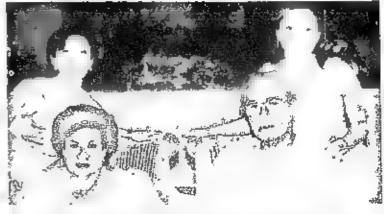




Sunday LIFESTYLE



THE EXTENDED Aquino family poses with the newlyweds at the reception.



ROSE Aquino and daughter Regina at the golden wedding anniversary of their parents, Rep. Rafael and Puring Aquino, on



MOM of bride Rose "Babydoll" Aguing with brother-m-law Francisco "Ike" Ramos



SISTERS ACT, Stunning sisters, and aunts of the bride, Rowena Aguing and Rosita Aguino-Ramos outside St. Matthew's Cathedral, Washington, DC

eeping an old vow and making a new one

From page El

But they bumped into each other in another party a year lat er. Regina was impressed by his intelligence and passion during their first real conversation. They discovered how much they had in common.

Falling madly in love, they were engaged after five months of dating.

'Where thou goest'

One evening, Robert simply said, "I want to move to New York and I want you to move with me-as my wife. Marry me?" Regma replied, "Yest"

Deciding to wed on her grandparents' anniversary, the couple spent their eight-month engagement planning the wedding. Their wedding invitation was tres personal, containing their favorite love poem, "And Now You're Mine" by Pablo Neruda

Regina looked radiant, like someone from a fairytale, in a romantic light-mauve corseted ball gown of layers of tulle with matching long-trained tuile cape, worn in heu of a veil. The dress was designed by Rena Koh of Boca Raton. Babydo.l chose an elegant vintage beaded termo from her late mom's collection of gowns designed by the late Ramon Valera, no .ess, paranggas.

The big antique wooden doors of St. Matthew's Cathedral in Washington opened at 2.30 p.m. for the ceremony. The teary-eyed mother of the bride watched the apple of her eye walk down the aisle. Robert was dashing in his



NEWLYWEDS Regina and Robert with principal sponsors: uncle Francisco Ramos, aunts Carol Aquino, Nelda Lee, Kathleen Fonder, Anecia Esmilia and uncle Paul Lokie

3/4-length ruxedo suit. He had a gold pocket watch given by his father, as well as gold and jade cuff links that belonged to Regina's "Nunu" Rafael Aquino.

All in the family

The couple asked family and pals to join the bridal entourage. Regina's close pal, actor and singer/songwriter Cynthia Lin, was maid of honor. Bridesmaids, stumming in long back gowns and mauve talle capes, were cousins and pals who came from three continents. They were cousins Christine "Chie" Jose-Irwin, Charisse Aquino, Rainbow Ramos, Ronnie Ramos, International School Mani-

la friend Chesa Zimmer and fellow actor Veronica del Cerro.

Junior bridesmaid Samantha Lee and flower girls, nieces Natalie Fowler and Julia Fonder, also wore mauve capes and looked like little farnes.

Best man was Dutton Hauhart, who introduced the couple. Groomsmen were cool and hip brothers, Anthony and Christopher Richards and close friends from college. Com and ring bearers were nephews Michael Lokie and Jackson Fonder, handsome in their black suits.

Principal sponsors were all aunts and uncles, such as titus Nelda Lee, Carol Lim Dayonot, Annie



THE GRAND matriarch, Refugio "Puring" Aquino, in the early '60s in one of her Ramon Valera

Esmilia and Kathleen Fonder and titos like Ramos, Paul Lokie

Reception was at the newly refurbished elegant and stately Madison Hotel in Washington, D.C., where 175 people feasted on fusion cuisine, blending East and West with "Pan-asian," "Middle Eastern" and "Western" food stations. A sushi chef was there from KAZ Sushi, the best in town.

'Flowers' from Manila

The wedding cake was a deacious four-tiered burgundy cake alternating triple choco ate mousse and Bavarian fruit pastry. It was topped with beautifully handerafted gum-paste cal.a

lilies from Manda, made especially by aunt Byng Ayson Aquino, owner of Perfect match Flowers. A "dessert lounge" was filled with over 30 different calorific, cholesterol.fic sweets, from all over the world. An old-fash oned ice cream parlor was a testament to Regina's love for ice cream

Tres visib e at the event were Regina's social te aunt, Rowena N. Agu no, who breezed in from Manila, accompanied by her newlywed daughter, Chie Jose-Irwin, and her insh hubby Justin ir win, who jetted in from Donega., Ireland

Another aunt, ballroom dancing queen, Rosita Aquino-Ramos, gave a beautiful rendition of "Dahil Sa Iyo" with her awardwinning instructor, to the deaght of the couple and their guests.

For the reception, super chic mom Babydoll changed into another hand-beaded vintage gown by Ramon Vatera, also from her late mom Puring's collection. Ali sisters looked fabulous! Robert's large Italian and Celtic famille came from all over the US to wit ness the occasion.

Entertainment was a mixture of live and recorded music. Everyone rocked on the dance floor, led by the bride and groom until almost daylight, dahlings, when the newlyweds finally retired to their Royal Suite. The coupie's adorable pug, Presley, sporting a bow tie, parned as we.l.

Everyone agreed the biending of Regina's Fil.pino and Robert's Italan/Ceitic cultures promises a great parmership and future indeed!

Lipa street gets a new name

KALIPULAKO Street in L.pa, Batangas, has been renamed Obispo Obviar in honor of the first Filipino priest and bishop whose life is now under study by the Congregation for the Cause of Saints in Rome—Servant of God Bishop Alfredo Mana Aranda Obviar

Attending the ceremonies were Lipa Mayor Vilma Santos-Recto, Lipa Archbishop Ramon Arguelles, Maka Obviar Lay Organization president Danny Dolor, priests and municipal councilors who passed Special Ordinance No. 05-2004 with former vice mayor Fernando Manguera presiding.

Sponsors of the ordinance were Councilors Rowena C. Sombrano-Africa, Romy Macasaet and Leonila L. Caupen. They were supported by Councilors Eric B. Africa and Solomon L. de Jesus.

The street renaming in August was part of the celebration of Lipa City's 57th founding anniversary.

A good priest. Danny Dolor, who is helping in the information campaign on the late bishop, said he was a good priest, a holy priest. Danny got to know the bishop when he was auxiliary bishop of Lipa in 1944 and bought his medicines at the pharmacy of Danny's mother, Soledad Lino Dolor, now 91

Doña Soledad was actually the sponsor of Bishop Obviar when he was mstalled auxiliary bishop. She donated in 1979 the statue of the bishop that is now in the garden of the convent of the Missionary Catechists of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, which he founded in 1958. The bishop passed away on Oct. 1, 1978,

PURELY **PERSONAL**

Josephine Darang



feast of St. Therese, at age 89. In 1994, the Bishop Alfredo Obviar

Museum opened in Tayabas, Quezon. Danny Dolor opened in 2002 the Bishop Obviar Center in SLD Bldg, on P. Torres Street, Lipe, (tel. 043-7562429).

A private chapel of Bishop Obviar at the Aranda residence, Mataas na Lupa, Lipa can be visited by appointment,

Full-color comics. A full-color comic booklet in English and Tagalog has been published through Danny Dolor and the Maka-Obviar Lay Organization. To get a copy text Sister Nelida at 0921-2144637. Those who want copies of prayers can write to me, enclosing a selfaddressed stamped envelope.

Shower of roses. When Bishop Obviar was Lipa's auxiliary bishop, the miracle of the ros- as happened. But he accepted the decision of the Bishops of the Commissions in 1951 to put a stop to stories about the apparitions.

June Kesthiey's book, "Lipa," mentions an interview in 1992 with the late Bishop Godofredo Pedernal, a young priest during the Virgin's apparitions to Sr. Teresing Castillo, then a postulant.

Father Pedernal accompanied then Li-Bishop Alfredo Verzosa to the

Carmelite convent. The bishop was angry because of the nuns' claims of miracles. It was said a flow of rose petals met the bishop when he opened the convent's done He fell to his knees, accepting the

miracle was true. But it had to be kept a secret. Some 56 years later, the appointion has still to be recognized by the Philippine Church.

But people go to Lipa to hear Mass and pray to Our Lady Mediatrix of All Graces. Bishop Pedernal passed away several months after the interview and, on his request, was buried beside Bishop Obviar in Tayabas, Quezon.

More on Bishop Obviar

Most Rev. Alfredo Maria Aranda Obviar was born in 1889 in Mataas na Lupa, Lipa City, Batangas, to Telesforo Obviar and Florentina Catalina Aranda.

His early religious formation and education were at the Jesuit College of St. Francis Xavier in Manila. After earning a degree in Bachelor of Arts at Ateneo de Manila University, he went to the University of Sto. Tomas Pontifical Seminary for Theological Studies.

The bishop was ordained in 1919. His pastoral ministry began that same year at Luta (now Malvar), Batangas. He was pastor of the Cathedral Parish in Lipa City 1927 1944.

He established catechencal centers in both parishes. He also became vicar general of the archdiocese of Lipa. After 25 years in the ministry, Father Obviar was ordained to the Episcopate and became Lipa's first auxiliary bishop.



FR. Jonas Palmares, Fr. Eyong Ramos, Mother Mercy Medenilia, Archbishop Arguelles, Mayor Vilma Santos-Recto, Danny Dolor, MCST Mother General Felina Caspillo, Fr. Bong Luistro and former vice mayor Fernando Maguera

In 1951, Bishop Obviar was installed as apostolic administrator of the new diocese of Lucena where he founded the Missionary Carechists of St. Therese in 1958.

In 1969, Bishop Obviar was declared first residential bishop of the diocese of

The cause of Bishop Obvior's beatification has led to efforts in his home province, Batangas, and hometown, Lipa, to propagate his life and work especially among Batangueños, Former Lipa Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales organized the Maka-Obviar Movement composed of Batangueño priests, religious brothers and sisters, relatives of Bishop Obviar, and the Batangas laity.

Seminary needs help

Fr. Oscar Cadayon, rector of Pope Paul

VI minor seminary in Maasin, Leyte,

"Our minor seminary, named after Pope Paul VI, is now 34 years old. It needs some repair and repainting... Our Diocesan chancery province (is in) one of the poorest provinces in the Philippines.

"May I ask you for financial [assistance] for the repainting of the seminary dormitories and (the purchase of) ceiling fans [for the] seminary chapel and study

Write to Pather Oscar at the above address, call (053)3813631 or e-mail ocadayona@excite.com

Student needs help. Sergio Gendsa, whose daughter Maria wants to become a nurse, can be reached at 5232754 or, by text, 0919-5169806. Maria is a first-year nursing student at Adamson University.

SundayLIFESTYLE



ESPINOSA-RABENA

Melborne Espinosa, son of Melanio and Teresa Espinosa, will marry Jewel Rabena, daughter of Aurelio and Marlyn Rabena, on Oct. 23 at San Agustín Church in Intramuros. Reception will be at Tamayo's Villa Immacu.ada.

The bride will wear an ivory-white princess-cut duchess satin gown embelltshed with glass and cut beads. with a four-yard train designed by Eddie Baddeo.



We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple to the INQUIREN office, or PO. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City, or e-naci lifestyle@inquirencom.ph. This will be printed depending on the couple of the coup space availability and at no cost to the sender.



TAN NG

Edgar G. Tan, son of Suan Te and Pec Ty Tan, will marry Melody K. Ng, daughter of An-tonia Kho Ng, on Nov. 21 at United Evangelfcal Church of the Philippines Reception will be at CityBest Scafood

Garden in Quezon City. The bride will wear a silk organza gown with silver and transparent glass beads by Gueco Designs.



CRUZ-CALPATURA

Marlene Cruz, daughter of Ricardo and Felicidad Cruz, and Emar Calpatura, son of Crispin and Adoracion Cal-patura, will tie the knot on Oct. 30, 10 a.m., at the Saint Peter Parish Church, Tungkong Mangga, San Jose del Monte, Bulacan, Reception will follow at the groom's house at Block 39 Lot 1, Francisco Homes 3, Muzon, SJDM, Bulacan.





gandy, embroidered in scroll and floral patterns with cut glass, sand crystals and Swarovski stones by Leonard Co.





MURALLA DEBUT

Tracy Anne Muralla, eldest daughter of Nestor and Weng Muralla, will celebrate her debut on Oct. 20 at the Valle Verde Country Club ballroom. A part-time model, the debutante is taking up Commerce at the University of Santo Tomas. She will wear an Eddie Baddeo pink lilae princesscut ballgown with draping top bodice in chartreuse, lavender and canary yellow, embelished with Swarovski crystals

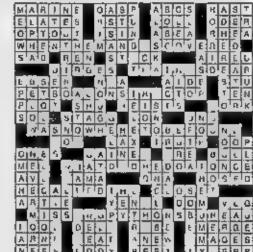




VILLAGONZALO DEBUT

Ryza P. Villagonzalo, daughter of Henry Sr. and Celsa Villagonzalo, celebrated her 18th birthday recently at Caritas, Mania. She is studying at the Orthopedagogica. Institute









HENSON DEBUT Marie Rose Henson, daughter of Oscar and Realiza Henson, celebrated her 18th birthday yesterday at Patio Victoria in Intra-muros. She wore an Eddie Baddeo creation-a gray and lavender gown with fully beaden bodice and Venus neckline, with Aline skirt and full circular bias ruffles. Styling was by Meinard Giccomo.

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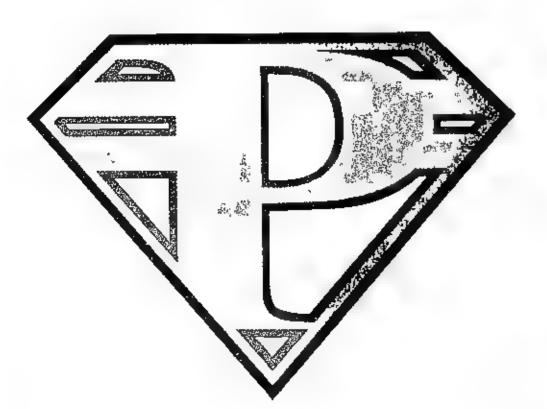
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12 Filipina achievers join

the illustrious ranks of TOWNS awardees

STORY ON PAGE F2



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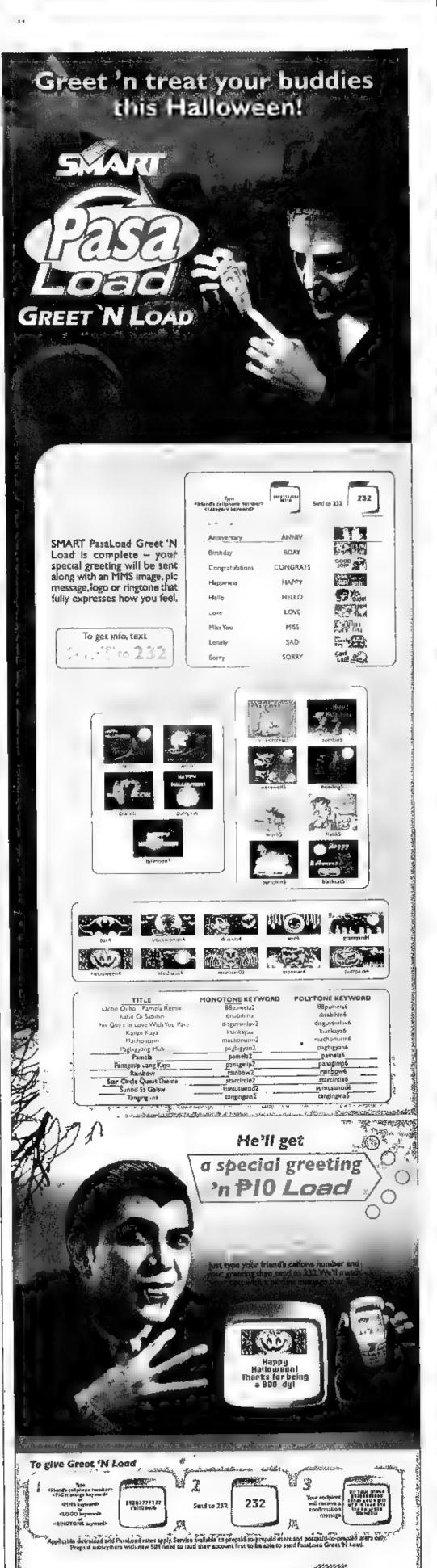
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Sunday LIFESTYLE



RAQUEL Fortun



DEANIE Lyn Ocampo



ALICIA Arroyo



MADONNA Casimero



DITA Sandico Ong

Women of the year

Text by Rowena C. Burgos Photos by Joseph Agraoili

HEIR accomplishments reflect the powerful combination of proficiency, passion and, yes, perspiration. But, although we suspect that these women really sweat, they do it ever so discreetly.

In a recent press conference, this year's awardees of The Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service (TOWNS) talked briefly about their extraordinary career choices, living their dreams and the determination required to be a successful woman in today's world.

Because of her work with sick thildren, Catherine Babao-Guballa was given the Reader's Digest Everyday Hero award in 2003 and a Unicef honor in 2002. This TOWNS awardee for public service (children's healthcare advocacy) was trying to overcome her gnef over the death of her son in 1998 when she established Migi's Corner Foundation, a non-profit organization aimed at improving the living conditions of indigent kids in government hospitals. There are now 12 Migi's Corners all over the country.

"As editor in chief of Me magazine, I continue to advocate for improvements in the area of children's health through stories in the magazine and by continuing to write about such topics in the Inquirer," says Guballa, who is also helping in the rehabilitation of the pediatrics ward of the Philippine General Hospi-

Alicia R.ta Morales Arroyo, chair of the Philippine Stock Exchange, worked hard to make the Riza. Commercial and Banking Corp. (RCBC) a leading remittance player in Hong Kong, before she became the president and CEO of RCBC

Securities Inc
"I relocated the Kowloon Remittance
Office to the Star Ferry, enabling OFWs
to have easier access to remitting their
funds to their beneficiaries. This also
gave them an option for door-to-door delivery nationwide. Together with respected business personalities, I worked
on the establishment of the Hong Kong
Bayanihan Trust Co. that enabled domestic helpers to make use of training fa-

Appreciation Award from the PSE in 2001 for supporting and contributing to the demutualization of the PSE, and in 2004 for her "sterling leadership and dedication."

Mana Josephine Barnos' work as an alternative romance novelist is considered pioneering, because she has used a popular literary form to discuss issues such as censorship and violence against women and mail-order brides.

"I have effectively articulated the experiences and issues of women through my poetry, plays and alternative novels. I believe my work has influenced and inspired other women writers, artists and musicians," says Barrios, whose researches have greatly contributed to women's studies and literature

A facilitator-trainer in theater and poetry workshops in the Philippines and United States, Barrios conceptual zed the six-week UP Intensive Philippine Studies Program, which offers courses in Filipino and Philippine Studies to Filpino-American and Southeast Asian Studies scholars from the US, Japan and other countries.

Madonna Carbon Casimero earned an award for Outstanding Research Level 1 for the Philippine Rice Research Institute in 1995. In 1999, she mented the best paper in weed science at the 31st PMCP Annual Scientific Meeting. In 2001, her work titled "Population Dynamics and Growth of Weeds in Rainfed, Rice-Onion System in Response to Chemical and Cultural Contract Methods," was awarded the best research paper.

"Born to a poor family, I have always been inspired to search for relevant technologies to alleviate low production and the income of poor families in the country," she says

Cecuia Oreña Drilon has been in broadcast journal sm for 19 years now She has covered some of the Philippines' most memorable stones, like the government's negotiations with the CPP-NDF in 1986 and with the MNLF in 1987, the coup against the Aquino government in 1989, the killer quake in 1990, the Mt Pinatubo eruption in 1991, the ambush of Joe Pring by the CPP's Alex Boncayao Brigade in 1994, and the peace talks between the Philippine government and the Musiim separatist group MiLF in Tripolt, Libya, in 2001

"I have consistently tried to uphold responsibility and commitment in an in-



CATHERINE Babao-Guballa

dustry that is fiercely compentive and driven by ratings and profit. My strong commitment to public service is my persona, and humble contribution to the task of nation-building," Drilon says.

Raques del Rosario Fortun is the first Filipino patholog st formally trained in forensic pathology and the first Filipino woman pathologist. She won The Outstanding Young Men Award in forensic

pathology in 2002 Fortun offered her forensic medicine expertise pro bono during the Ozone diseo tragedy in 1996, the Asosacion de Damas Filipinas fire in 1998 and the Asian Spirit plane crash in 1999. For the autopsy of a Filipino worker killed in Saipan, she was taken as a forensic pathology consultant by the Attorney General's office of the Commonwea th of the Northern Marianas in 1997. She participated in the Physician for Human Rights-Republic of Cyprus Mission in 1999 to identify victims of the Turkish invasion. In 2001-2002, she was forensics pathology consultant for the UN Transnational Administration in East Timor

"Being a spokeswoman of the dead is a fascinating job," she deadpans.

Carmina Lourdes Cynthia Arnaldo Gutierrez won Time Magazine's Asian Heroes Award in 2003 "for using her fame to spread a message often ignored



CHINCHIN Gutierrez

in the Ph'lippines." In 2004, she won the International Earth Day Award of Recognition for "Uyayi, a Collection of Philippine Lullabies." She has also organized multisectoral consultations among the diverse groups residing in Mt. Banahaw, helping them to take care of the place's precious watershed and forest cover.

"Whether engaged in the task of healing Mother Earth or rekindling our ties with our Motherland by echoing the voices of our ancestral past, I believe I have touched the tives and hearts of our countrymen and made them proud to be people of the Philippines and citizens of the world," says this actress.

Mar chu Celino Lambino received the Parangal from Kongreso ng Mamamayang Pilipino in 2002. In 2000, she oined the impeachment trial of Joseph Estrada as a private prosecutor. "I annotated live on TV the presentation of bank managers and Chavit Singson as witness," she says.

Lambino was appointed UP Diliman chief legal officer in 1991. In 2000, she was part of the fact-finding mission to war-torn Mindanao.

Aura Castillo Manas, president of the Philippine Ergonomics Society, director of the Philippine Institute of Industrial Engineering, division head of the National Research Council of the Philippines and secretary-general of the Asso-

cuation for Engineering Education in Southeast Asia and the Pacific, is the key founder of the Philippine Institute of Industrial Engineers.

"My involvement in various government projects has been characterized by both application of expertise and creativity in generating new knowledge that form the basis of government policy and decision-making," Matias says.

Deanie Lyn Ocampo has published researches for the Reading Association of the Phils., Family Studies Program of the UP Coilege of Home Economics and UP Home Economics Journal. Her specialization in Early Childhood Care and Development covers an extensive community-based research and development experience, utilized for national and local policy reforms for the welfare of 0-6 years old Filipino children.

"I dedicate my achievements to my bedridden father and to my mother. They are the moving powers in my work," she says.

Fernandina Sand co Ong, president-designer of Cache Apparels and president of Earthi te Foundation, has promoted and used the finished products of the Mangyans in Mindoro. She also plans to put up a center to promote Mindoro to both locals and tourists. In 1992, she was recognized with The World's Who's Who of Women Cert ficate of Merit, 11th Edition, by the International Biographic Center in Cambridge, England

Blessilda Perez Raposa, president of the Mathematical Society of the Phils, secretary of the National Research Council of the Phils, and member of the Southeast Asian Mathematical Society, is a member of the Commission on Higher Education technical panel for science and math, which evaluates academic

programs for higher institutions.

"My efforts have always been geared toward the improvement of the mathematics community in the Philippines. The seminars I help conduct aim at improving the mathematical knowledge of teachers and students alike," she says.

Worthy of emulation

TOWNS Awards are given every three years to Filipino women professionas, 21-45 years old at the time of selection Since TOWNS was founded in 1974 by Lions Club Int'l., at has awarded 130 women.

"These awardees represent the new wave of phenomenal women. They dare not only to dream but also to achieve success in professions where there is no room for mediocray. They are examples to be celebrated and emulated by us al. By making performance their bottom line, they demonstrate that the most effective response to adversity is an insistent pass on for excellence," says Dr. Perla Santos-Ocampo, chair of the awards

This year's 12 TOWNS awardees will be honored on Oct. 28 at Maiacañang Palace

E-mail the author at rburgos@mquirercom.ph



BLESSILDA Raposa



AURA Matias



MARIA Josephine Barrios



MARICHU Lambino



CECILIA Drilon

Sunday LIFESTYLE



LAKE Sampaick with Mt. Barahaw as majastic backdrop

San Pablo celebrates its seven lakes

SAN Pablo City in Laguna will hold its Festival of the Seven Lakes Oct. 27-31.

The event will include Market sa Lawa trade fair and exhibits along the legendary Sampalok Lake, the biggest of San Pablo's seven lakes with an area of 104 ha, and site of the

Aside from Sampalok, San Pablo City, which lies south of Laguna within sight of mystical Mt. Banahaw, has also Calibato, Pandin, Yambo, Bunot, Mohicap and Palakpakin lakes.

For the trade fair, Laguna's other towns will bring products that they are famous for like Sta. Cruz's kesong puti, Liliw's beaded footwear, Lumban's embroidered just and piña, and Los Baños' ornamental and other plants

The festival's first day, Oct 27, also the birthday of San Pablo Mayor Vicente Amante, begins with a motorcade, followed by a Mass at the Doña Leonila Park overloolung Sampalok Lake and Mt. Banahaw.

A dinner-cocktail will be held in the evening with Sen. Jamby Madrigal, Swiss Ambassador Lise Pavre, Laguna Rep. Denton Q. Bueser, Gov. Teresita Lazaro, Vice Gov. Edwin L. Olivarez and Department of Tourism Director Louella Jurilla.

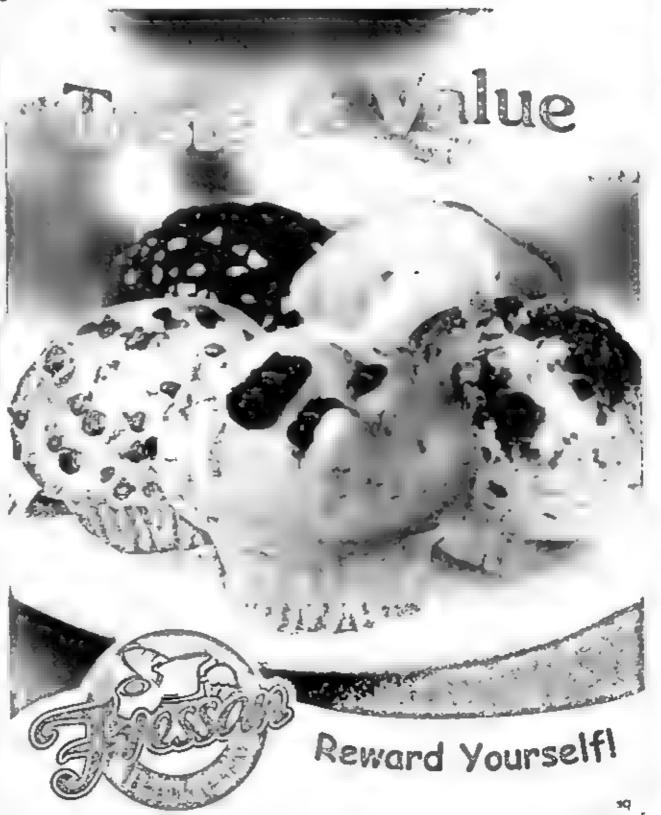
Festival of the Seven Lakes will also feature fun and games, contests and musical shows. San Pablo will also showcase its Cherubims and rondalla. Local bands will also perform

The San Pablo Artists Society will hold a painting exhibition and contest. Animal lovers can enjoy a bird show and dog competition. A scarecrow contest and exhibit will also be held to mark Halloween

Highlight of the festival is the Baka Regatta at Sampalok Lake starting at 6 a.m. on Oct.

Seven Lakes dwellers will participate in regatta on fast moving bamboo rafts.

The Festival of the Seven Lakes has the support and participation of Laguna's different local government units, Department of Trade and Industry Laguna and San Pablo City Chamber of Commerce



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Nokia's Porikshit Bhasin, Pinky Webb, and Globe's Ferdz Dela Cruz

A flair for gourmet and technology the sea an inspiration Bacchius Bacchus International complemented the cuisine.



Hubtrons with Karen Kelly

Globe Piatinum's Mare e Terra was an exemplar in the arena of exquisite delights. Margarita Fores crafted Mare e Terra, a culmary tribute to the rich harvest from the sea and land. The intricately prepared feast derives inspiration from the rustic charm of Italy Wines from

Romantic music from a solo saxophonist played discreetly in the background, as some of Manila's notable names in government, business, society, media, entertainment and the arts savored the goarmet encounter. The garden case of Pepato, styled to resemble an Italian courtyard, highlighted a showcase of the latest artful mobile innovations

> Ces Drilon, Lea Caringai, and Edu Manzano

It truly was a night made special for Globe Telecom's top clients. Gerry Ablaza and Globe's top executives welcomed and entertained the guests. Friends of event co-hosts Mons Romulo-Tantoco and Margarita Fores also graced the event.

Gustatory delights that matched the excitement of a special preview of two upcoming handsets, the Nokia 6260 and the Nokia 9500 Communicator was indeed the perfect recipe for a memorable evening.

Collectively, these elements crescendo to a refined experience, a union of the modern and the traditiona, as only Globe Telecom can deliver

The event: Mare e Terra The hosts: Globe Platiman, Nokia, and Pepato The venue: Pepato, Greenbett 2

Stephanie Kienie and Christian Gonzales



Mons Romulo-Tantoco and Joyce Oreña

Toffer Vidal, Margarita Fores, and Raul Manzano





Pepper Teehankee and Luanne Erni



from Nokia.

Willie Soong, Jun Cabangon, Alex Lichayton, and Sander

Cesar Buenaventura, Guillermo Luchangco, Maloy Luchangco, Leanarda Gonzalez, Toby Gan, and

Bernie Gan





Seated, Chinggay Andrada, Cory Quirino Standing Victor Consunji, Margarita Fores, and Becky Garcia



Delfin Gonzales Jr., George Siy, Charlie Rulino, and Gerry Ablaza



Nokio's Rhomel Marcojos, Jaanne Racoma,Luanne Erni, and Gary Valenciano



Joja Ocampo, Girlie Rodis, and Louie Ocampo



Francisco Dizon, Ernest Cu, and Marin Tornberg

Bea Voidez, and Anton Mendoza



Biedes Flores, Luis Terry, Margarita Fores, Ito Feliciano and Rhett Ealo



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CHARMING racers. Sheree, Diana Zubiri and Raven Villanueva.

TELEBRITIES, sports and charity seem to be a winning combination for a successful event in these challenging times. is Two recent, sports-related affairs allowed me to expand my wardrobe to include sporty, casual chic attire. But I quickly realize that such is my least favorite look since it requires minimal accessories and playing with a wig and feathers is disastrous.

Not that I've been able to play anyway. During my recent holiday in Greece, apparently I brought home the ultimate Olympic souvenir



Prieto-Valdes

-I am now in my first trimester for a 2005 babyt So my workout schedule, which included belly-dancing, flamenco, badminton, triathlon and yoga, have been put on hold for now and I am officially a sports salingpusa.

At the recent Nivea Celebrity Karting Challenge, I have never seen such a large gathering of show-biz glitterati and political fritterati battling it out at the Mansla Speedzone tracks. I actually tried karting in their old location near Antipole. In what can only be described as a good move, Belgian owner Hans Desmet decided to relocate to the more accessible The Fort.

is it politically incorrect to call myself a woman driver? My screams were louder than

THE DAREDEVIL GZ



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GREAT players Keren Pascual, Rajo Laurel. Raya Mananguil and Corey Wills

INQUIRER badminton belles Apples Aberin Sadhwani and Gern Padilla; and Paolo Bediones



ASSUMPTION Batch '81 with Martin Nievera

PHOTOS BY WILLY SAW

The daredevil and the 'Assumptionista' in me



SEXY Patricia Javier with young racer Alfonso Martinez



RIGHTLINK Productions' Jessica Rodriguez and hubby David Bunevacz



AMBI Pur men's winners Paolo Valenciano, **Dominic Ochoa and Richard Gomez**

I went karting against the best and ended last, and smashed with celebrities and ended ...quite



PRETTY Agot Isidro



smashed



CHAMPION Men's Relay Challenge: Rep. Albert Garcia, Ramon Christopher, Richard Gutierrez and Tonton Gutierrez

From page GI

the engine! I would cut the curves with my screeches, sounding like engine trouble, and that wasn't even an official race. If I joined the Nivea race, I would have garnered the Turtle Lap award that went to sexy actress Diana Zubiri. Never mind, the racing jumps ont looked so good on her it's hard to believe that one breast size fits all.

With the curvaceous Viva Hot Babes waving the flags, the spectators could barely keep their eyes on the race, except for notable exceptions like supportive mom, Angeli Valenciano, cheering for her son Paolo. Eldest son of Mr. Pure Energy Gary V, this natural driver was the Ambi Pur Individual Male fastest lap Shuttlecocks winner, beating racing grants like Richard Gomez and Dominic Ochoa, Proud Angeli was so thrilled, she e-mailed me five photos of her son's victory. It was such a surprise because Paolo had only a couple of runs a week

I met up with Sen. Mar Roxas at the ribbon-cutting of the Negros Trade Fair, and the Nivea Challenge was still on our minds. He told me that he placed and ended in the same slot as I and told me not to tell anyone. (Shh! It was 29th place!) Maybe he was not too inspired since his only girl, Korina Sanchez, only arrived after his race.

New hair harbor

As usual, I was juggling multiple events, so I had to quickly leave because I was the guest of honor at the new hair salon of Eric Maningat, Studio 546 in the Shangri-La Plaza Mall. One of my favorite makeup stylists, Eric is in charge of making me look good for my HSBC and General Motors print ads. So I was overjoyed that his parlor is directly across Urban Spa and Preview editor Pauline Suaco-Juan's Nail Soa on the fifth floor of the mall. Now I can plan a whole day, total makeover, all in one corner of the mall!

'Colegiala' badminton

My next big sport-viewing event was my own Assumption Batch '81 Badmenton cournament at the new Zone courts in Makati. The fund-raising affair was sponsored by PLDT, Adıdas, Metropolitan Athlene Club, Metropolitan at Rockwell, RFM, HSBC, Volvo, Human, Yamaha, Gosen and, of course, inquiren.

If it weren't for their support and the rest of the nunor sponsors, I don't think all our efforts to help fund the school's Mother Rose Auditorium and also its mission schools would have been successful. I realized that there are just so many kind and generous beings still passionate about helping the country even if it seems like an uphill challenge. Or maybe we just twisted their arms too hard and abused our friendships! Either way super thanks to all of the wonderful sponsors who supported the Assumption.

On top of their financial support, a notable

SPEEDZONE racers Dyan Castillejo, Marc Nelson, Bernard Palanca, Mico Palanca and Geof

Rodriguez

few also generously gave of their time. PLDT chair Manny Pangdinan and INCORRER chair Marixi Prieto (What are monts for?) played a VIP match, which pitted humble and endearing Mr. P partnered with Filipina Badminton Olympian Weena Lim against equally humble and endearing Mrs. P. partnered with National Team player Wally Fernandez. And who won that match? Well, let's just say the Assumption did. Thanks to all

The match was a close one, though. Wally had to play his cards right because PLDT sponsored his trip to compete at the US Badminton Open with the rest of the Philippine Team, including our top player, Kennyvic Asuncion, Practically straight from the airport, both Wally and Kennyvic still played impressive demo matches that left all of us amateur players just so aware of the difference between hitting our leisurely lobs and their swatting 120-kph smashes.

Equally impressive was first-time player HSBC president Warner Manning. He gets my award for Most Sporting CEO! An excellent squash player, Warner had never touched a badminton racquet and yet he almost won with his partner, pretty Cita Yabut, against my ex-tennis player hubby, Dennis, who combined with fun Gina Godinez. Gina also happens to be the sister of my fave crooner and buddy, Martin Nievera, who surprised us and graced the event in between his busy schedule. An avid player, he told me he would play in the next year's tourney.

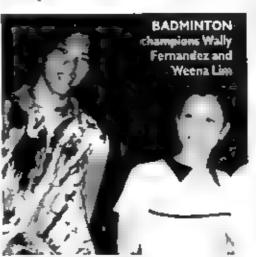
Celebrities

What's a charity event without celebrity stars? Gorgeous hunk, numero uno Diether Ocampo, played with all-around athlete Dyan Castillejo, who brought her crew from "Sports Unlimited" to cover the event. "S Files" host Paolo Bediones (he has an instructional video, by the way) and TV stranger and Inquirer columnist Cory Quarino cut the ribbon with Zone owner Vina Concepcion Monasterio. Inquirea badminton beiles Apples Aberin-Sadhwani and Gem Padilia showed that their beauty and strength are unbeatable. And cute, spunky singer Kitchie Nadal almost sang for us.

After all the sponsored Gosen rackets, Adidas bags and Rustan's gifts had been given to the winners, and raffle prizes from JVC and Nokia had been won, I had the Freeway Dance winners from Miriam High School perform their closing number since our own As-

sumption girls didn't have a dance ready. Fun, sports, charity, generous executives, wonderful celebrity stars and just good of regular folks like classmates from high school these are the best elements for a successful event that leaves everyone's hearts happy.

E-mail the author at seaprincess@inquir-



ZONE owner Vina Concepcion Monasterio and Betchay Monserrat

HUNK Diether Ocampo and RFM couple

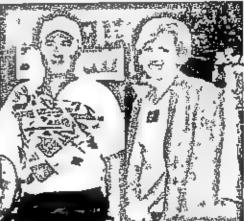
Marissa and Joey Concepcion

INQUIRER chair Marixi Prieto and PLDT's

Manny Pangilinan



NOKIA 6110 winner Lindy Peliteer Magnaye, Gina Godinez and Janet Campos



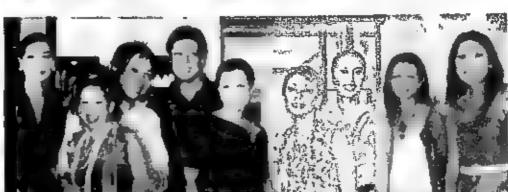
HSBC CEO Warner Manning and wife Julie



VOLVO boss Albert Arcilla, Carmela Puyat and Bing Javelosa-Ongstako



ADIDAS gear for Assumption Batch '8f members Peaches Luciano-Jimenez, Carolyn Trota-Salud, Jaid Palma, Popsie Gamboa and Meg Soriano-Roque



STUDIO 546 opening. Tina Ocampo, me, Patrick Rosas, Eric Maningat, Daphne Orena-Paez, Lala Fojas , Yvette Hagan, Pauline Suaco-Juan and Chalk Religioso

Meeting on making schools 'faith communities'

THE FIRST National Con- to students by transforming vention of Campus Ministry will be held Oct. 20-22, at the Grand Ballroom of Westin Philippine movement.

The event is hosted by the Campus Ministry of the Ministry for Youth Affairs of the Archdiocese of Manila, in partnership with the University of Santo Tomas,

Theme of the convention is Transforming Schools into Faith Communities The convention has two objectives: to initiate a national movement that will provide an alternative environment

schools into faith communities: and to create a national structure that will facilitate the growth and sustainability of the

Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales has endorsed the convention, saying education plays a pivotal role in energizing the lungdom of God on Earth through the building of faith communities in school campuses.

School administrators, youth campus ministers, chaplants, student leaders and concerned parents are invited to attend the conven-

Call 7353390 or 7366589

adventures. The activities are

scheduled for today, SM City

Manila and SM City Sta. Mesa;

Oct. 24, SM City Pairview and SM City Dasmariñas; and Oct.

30, SM City Bacoor and SM

Masquerade Party at SM Mega-

mail Megastrip and SM City

Cebu Flesta Strip Oct. 30 wearing their scariest masks and

costumes. The event will fea-

hairstyles. Tokens will be given

to guests in costumes.

Prizes will be given for best

Kids can join the Halloween

Costume Contest. Prizes will

be given for Most Mystical/Magical Costume, Most

Customers can also join the

City North Edsa.



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A Halloween of fun and prizes HALLOWEEN at SM Su- cludes a video showing their

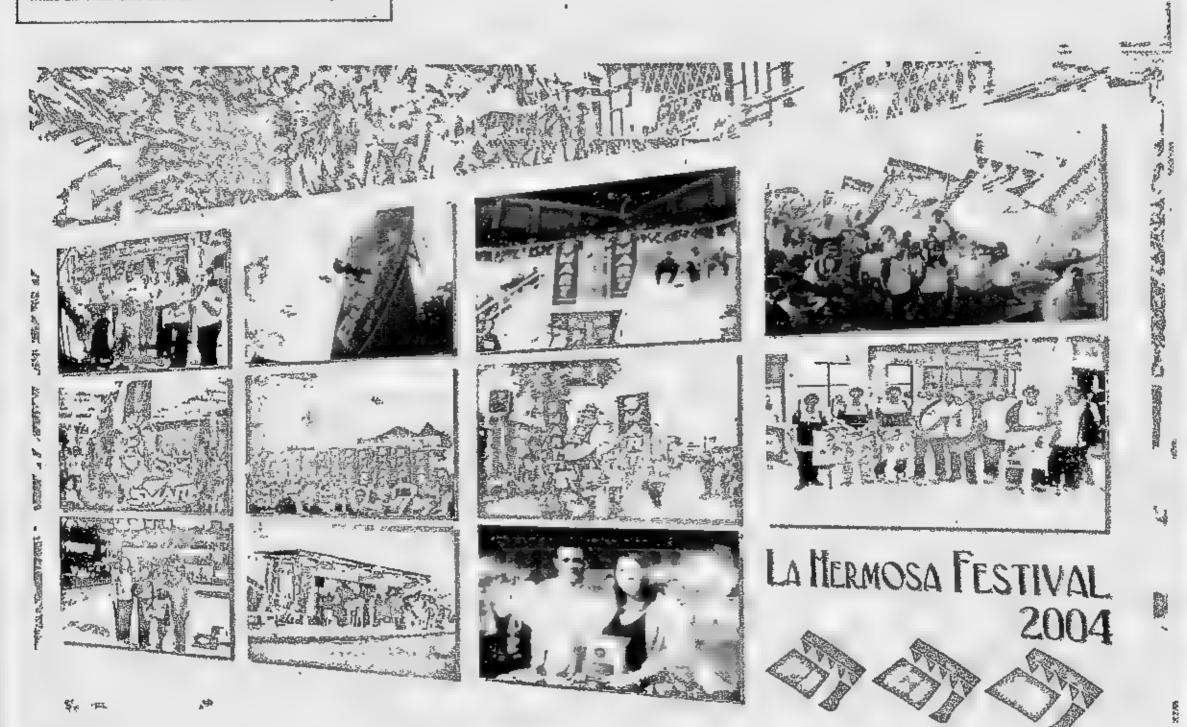
permalls until Nov. 2 means fun and prizes for tenants and customers.

A competition for the spooktest store window display will be held until Oct. 28. Winners will receive plaques of appreciation and P20,000, grand prize; P10,000, second prize; and PS,000, third prize.

Young shoppers will have a chance to meet the five Winx ture live bands and celebrity fairies and have their photograph taken with Teena, fairy of technology, Musa, fany of music; Plora, fairy of nature; Stella, farry of the sun and moon, and Bloom, fairy of the wind at 4 p.m., Oct. 31. They just have to present a receipt for a minimum P300 purchase Original/Creative Costume from any SM mall tenant.

A fashion show will feature the fairies in their costumes while the Winx Club Show inand Funniest Costume. Registration is until Oct. 31. Winners will be announced at

10 a.m. of the same day.



HITS ZAMBOANGA

Another year has elapsed and the spotlight once again shines on Zamboanga as the locals took to the city's streets to celebrate the colorful La Hermosa Festival 2004 And being the biggest festival celebrated in Mindaneo every October, accres of tourists flocked to the southern city in droves to join in the festivities as well.

With SMART Buddy, Talk 'N Text and SMART Load as proud sponsors,

you could be sure that the fun fector would be on overdrive. The Floral Float Parada was a sight to behold as the convoy wheeled along the narrow streets of the city, wowing the crowd at every turn. Traditional La Hermosa activities like the Street Dancing Competition and Regatta de Zamboanga were also highlights of the fiests. And if that weren't enough, a relantless blitz of concerts, bar tours,

beauty pageants, sports contests and exhibits rocked Zamboanga white creeting the electrifying ambiance that

La Hermosa has become known for: For all SMAPIT Buddy, Talk 'N Text and SMART Load subscribers, partying in Zamboanga was made all the more convenient thanks to the 3,500 and growing SMART call sites that give its subscribers the widest coverage anywhere in the country. And with

SMART being the leader in wheless, leader in Innovation, SMART Buddy offered its powerful 64K Super 8im 2, while Talk "N Text subscribers can now experience the Talk 'N Text Maga SIM. As most people already know, only SMART offers the best deals on the latest phones for new aubscribers when they sign up for what is considered to be the most advanced network in the country.

So as the festival draws to a close, you can be sure that SMART will continue to bring you more fun and exciting events, while continuing 'to deliver nothing but the best in worldclass innovations and services that you



MEGA SALE EVENT OF THE YEAR

Get ready for the holidays! Shop early and save on great selections mallwide during the 3-DAY SALE happening in SM Megamall Ortigas, SM CITY BACOOR, SM CITY DAVAO. October

Last chance to grab those items at great, great discounts! Check out SM Department Store for more bargains, SM Supermarket and Super SM Hypermarket (in SM City Marilao) for fantastic grocery buys. SM Foodcourt for great meal deals and more of your and hip cafes along J. Vargas Road (between favorite stuff at Surplus Shop, Watsons, SM Appliance Center, ACE Hardware, Our Home, Toy Kingdom and other specialty shoos mallwidel

MEGA SHOPPING 3-DAY SALE STARTS FROM 10:00 AM til 10:00 PM.

Enjoy the SALE event at the biggest and most favorite shopping destination. Gadgets at really great discounts Check out Do your early Christmas shopping and enjoy great discounts from food to fashion, personal care products, home furnishings, toys, noveities and much more! Watch out for a new and exciting SM MEGAMALL coming your way soon!

the Megastrip

SM MEGAMALL's strip of trendy restos Bidgs. A and B) has just added two new flavors to tease your discriminating taste buds. Check out Rasa Express (Singaporean) and Teriyald Boy (Japanese) over lunch or dinner. Also, enjoy fun, live entertainment during weekend nightsl

Grab the latest in cellphones and I.T. more promo offers at the Cyberzone, 4th Level of Megamali Building B.

Shop at SM HEGAMALL during the 3-DAY SALE for a chance to WIN:

Refrigerators

Oct. 15 (Fri)- 1 unit 10.1 cu ft LG Refrigerator -2 units 13.1 ou ft LG Refrigerators Oct. 16 (Sat) - 4 units 13.1 cu ft LG Refrigerators Oct. 17 (Sun)- 4 units 13.1 cu ft LG Refrigerators Daily Raffle starts at 9:30pm at the Upper Ground Floor (Bldg A) near McDonald's.

SHOR AND WI

Not to miss this weekend is the much awaited 3-DAY SALE of SM CITY BACOORI The mail has been known to offer really good and exciting bargains during SALE! Check out SM Department Store for more special offers or other stores mallwide for great finds!

Plus, a chance to WIN

MANABISHI (MANABISHI)

Home and Kitchen

Appliances during the raffle.

Oct. 15 (Fri) 26 யூர்க் Hansbishi Stand Fans

26 units Hansbishi Industrial Fans 16 units Hanabishi Double Burner Gas Stoves

10 units Hanabishi Electric Ovens Oct. 16 (Sat) & 17 (Sun)

27 units Hanabishi Stand Fans

27 units Henebishi Industrial Fens 17 units Hanabishi Double Burner Ges Stoves

10 unite Hanabishi Electric Ovens

Daily Reffle starts at 10:00pm at the Lower Ground Floor near SM Foodcourt Area.

UPER MOPPING TREA TSM CUDY MARIE

Real bargains, special treats and fantastic rewards await Bulekeños this weekend. Hunt for some great bargains at the SM Department Store and all other specialty stores mallwide! Watch out for the Fireworks Display on October 15 (Frl) at 7:30pm Get your kids entertained by the Mascot parade, as well as Drum and Lyre performances on October 16 (Sat) and 17 (Sun) at 11:00am.

Plus, a total of 240 units of A HANABISHI Home and kitchen Appliances to be won during the 3-DAY SALE Refflet

Get a chance to WIN

80 units Hanabishi Stand Fans

88 units Hanabishi Industrial Fans 50 units Hanabishi Double Burner Gas Stoves

30 units Hanabishi Electric Ovene Daily Raffle starts at 9:15pm at SM CITY MARILAO

Entertainment Plaza.



Great discounts, special offers and raffle prizes await shoppers of SM CITY ILOILO and SM CITY DAVAO. From food to fashion, the list goes endless for hot items at low, low prices

Plus, a total of 240 units of AHANABISHI' Home and kitchen Appliances (per mail) to be won during the 3-DAY SALE Raffiel

Shop over the weekend for a chance to WIN 60 units Hanabishi Stand Fana

88 units Henebishi Industrial Fans

50 units Hanabishi Double Burner Gas Stoves 38 units Hanabishi Electric Ovens

SM CITY ILOILO and SM CITY DAVAO Dally Raffle starts from October 15, 16 and 17 at 12:00 noory 2:00 pm/ 4:00pm/ 6:00 and 8:00pm

Customer gets one (1) raffle coupon for every P300 single or eccumulated purchase at the SM Department Store, SM Supermarkel, SM Foodcourt or participating mail tenents (food and non-food).

Get one (1) trial pack of Pigeon Baby Wipes with a minimum of P100 single receipt purchase at 64 [30][0][RT of SM Megamali, SM Baccor, SM liello, SM Davao and SM Marileo.



BACOO



'My grandson Miguel made Apple Dapples until everyone in the compound got cross-eyed eating them. But he perfected the recipe'

city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Ask my wife

By Gilda Cordero-Fernando

HEN you have been marned for over 50 years,
some interviewer is
bound to come around thinking
you have become some expert at
child-rearing. Well, one did find us
last year. He talked to my husband
who said, "Ask my wife." The guy
must have been sorely disappointed because he never wrote up our
interview.

At three, I told him, my grandson Juaneo's professed ambition was to be a dinosaur, a T-Rex to be exact. At four, Chin Chin wanted to be a vampire. The then 2-year-old Miguel just wanted to be an "Idodot," you know, the costumed brave dancing in Mines View Park. When I asked teenaged Maja.ya last year whether I could buy her a faux fur handbag that I would have killed to own, she said: "No thanks, I want to be President of the Philippines." What was wrong with my upbringing? Of them? Of their parents?

I remember when I was a corporate wife, I would go to Auggie Cordero when I needed some socially correct dress to wear to a cocktail party. Auggie had an assistant called Sammy, who was a soft-spoken, well-behaved gay. Sammy's shoulder-length hair was always coiffed in a neat page-boy. He wore a stylish trubenized white shirt, shin khak, pants and a thin belt. He sat with his legs together at a slant like nice girls do. Auggie had trained him well

Sometimes my daughter Wendy, then in her early teens, would come with me to Auggle's atelier. Wendy often sat any which way, her skirt harum-scarum, her legs any direction. On the way home I'd say, "Why can't you be like Sammy? He's the epitome of decorum, just intimate Sammy."

Years later, when she was already married and still with skirts every which way, I'd ask Wendy why she couldn't be more demure, you know, more ladylike? And she'd retort, "Because Sammy was the role model you gave me, and he's a guy!"

Well, Wendy grew up with no gender biases. She had three sons one after the other. Since she is artistic, she designed little shirts for them until they were 1 or 2 years of the shift at the same of the shift at the same of the shift at the same of the shift at the shift at they were pink. The infants looked great in

those fabrics.

When one of the little fellows who wore borderiess clothes became Grade 4, his enlightened art teacher assigned the class to bring a pair of shorts to school. To paint and stitch, oh yes, with needle and thread. Carlo's was a masterpiece (according to his mom). It had splashes of paint and running stitches all over.

So of course, I wanted a pair of pants with stitches all over, too. I bribed Carlo with enough money to buy a Ragnarok he wanted. After three excruciating months he was finally able, with his stubby fingers, to fill my pants with stitched outlines of fruits like mangoes and grapes and strawberries. It was beautiful. In a small corner he had sewn "Art by Carlo."

Now Carlo is not the least bit effeminate. I was so pleased with my pants I wanted to show the head teacher what my grandson had made extracurricularly. But his older brothers Franco and Io said, "Please don't, kawawa si Carlo. His classmates will make him of him and call him a sissy." "For sewing my pants?" I asked incredulously, "Di suntukin niya!" But my husband,

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Bago pumunta sa mall o grocery. Habang nag-e-enjoy kayo, ginagawang dengue-safe ang bahay niyo.

Sunday LIFESTYLE







NUESTRA Senora del Rosario de San Pablo by Rachy Cuna, from the collection of the Escudero Family setoylohison



IN CELEBRATION of its 25th anniversary, the Cofradia De La Immaculada Concepcion recently presented the Noche Para La Virgen Maria at the NBC Tent in Fort Bonifacio.

Chair Imelda Cojuangeo leads devotees of the Cofradia De La Immaculada in efforts to intensify devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Noche Para La Virgen Maria was a night to renew this commitment to the Blessed Mother, as a source of strength among Filipmos.

Participated in by the country's best floral designers and decorators, the event show-cased an array of beautiful presentations of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Mabolo's Antomo Garcia paid tribute to the Nuestra Señora De Las Flores, from the collection of Cojuangeo, with a profusion of punk roses and orchids.

Toni Serrano-Parsons designed a healthy blend of colors and textures in celebration of the Nuestra Senora Del Santissimo Rosario De La Naval De Manila, from the collection of the Alino family.

1816's Robert Blancaflor served up white roses for Nuestra Senora De La Victoria, from the collection of Dona Victoria L. Vda. De Tengro.

Rachy Cuna's ornate decoration was a fitting tribute to the Nuestra Señora Del Rosario de San Pablo, from the collection of the Escudero family.

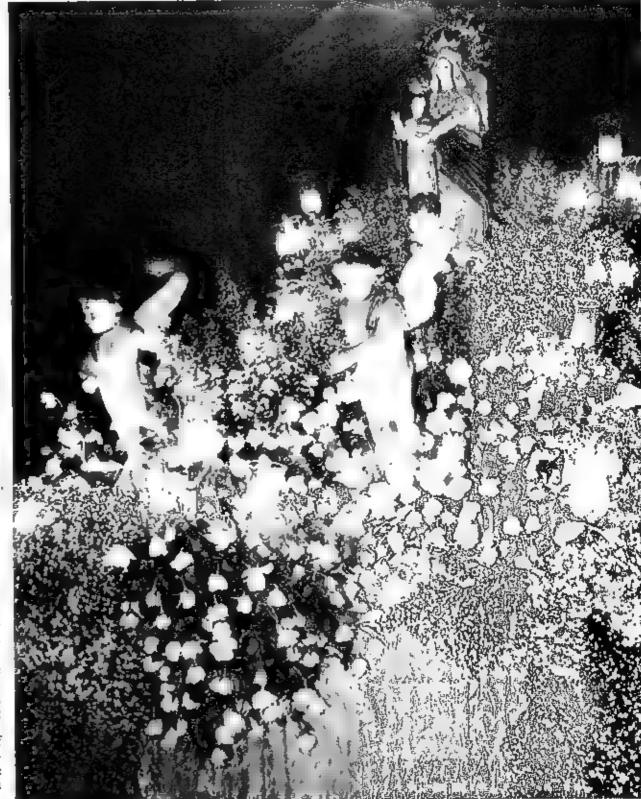
And Ponce Veridiano, utilizing all white flowers, gave glory to the La Immaculada Concepcion, from the collection of the Intramuros administration

Noche Para La Virgen Maria began with a Eucharistic celebration headed by Archbishop Gaudencio B. Rosales, who blessed the images

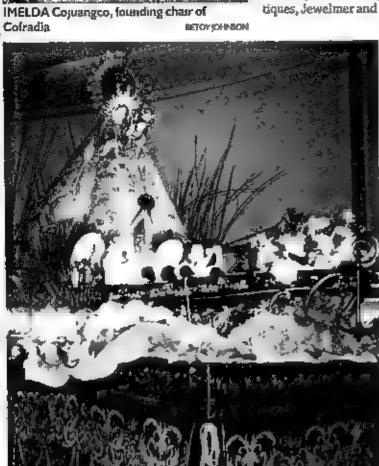
Afterward, an exhibit was launched featuring the works of Ramon Orlina. The noted glass sculptor presented a series of Mother and Child works, while Robert Sena and Isay Alvarez performed a very inspiring "Seranata."

Devotees and members present at the event included Cofradia 25th celebration ad hoc committee members Imelda Cojuangco, Aurora Erzmendi, Fe Rodriguez, Helen Ong and Danny Dolor.

Capping the event was a silent auction of beautiful pieces of Mauro Malang Santos, Arturo Luz, Soler Santos, paintings from the Metrobank Foundation, Pitoy Moreno, Ben Farrales, Patis Tesoro, El Cirkulo, Jo-Liza Antiques, Jewelmer and Evic Costa.



NUESTRA Senora de la Victoria by Robert Blancaflor, from the collection of Dona Victoria L. Vda. de Tengco



NUESTRA Señora del Santissimo Rosario de la Naval de Manila by Toni Parsons, from the collection of the Alinio Family



TABLE centerpiece arrangement by Ponce



TABLE centerplece arrangement by Antonio
Garcia of Mabolo BETTY (NESCHIEGO)

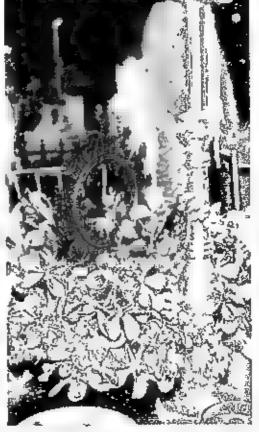


TABLE conterpiece arrangement by Racky
Cuna ecror preson

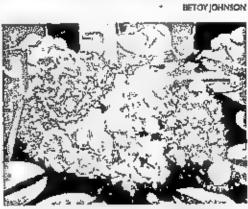


TABLE centerpiece arranged by Toni Parsons of 517 Flower Company BETOY JOHNSON

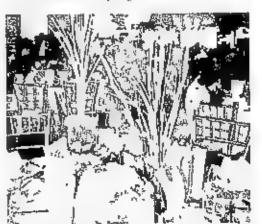


TABLE centerplece arrangement by Robert Blancaflor of 1816

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Ask my wife

From page H1

who's another macho who never owned a pair of embroidered pants, ordered me just to keep quiet about it.

Kiddie cooking

When they were kids, my granddaughters Majalya and Chin-Chin got for Christmas a large play stove with a coil that lighted and a sink that could pump real water. They would cut real vegetables with the plastic cleaver and put them in the pan "to cook." And guess who insisted on cooking with them? Their then 2-year-old cousin Quinito. And he was a more intense and assiduous cook than the girls, seriously ladling vegetables and stirring the pan and all. His mother was so flustered she brought out Quinito's new helicopter to distract him. But he was not to be derailed, so completely engrossed was he in "frying" and "pouring coffee," Until, I guess, she realized that Quinito sometimes sees his father, my son Arcus, cooking breakfast too, and it was okay for all of us

My own sons, Bey (now dead), Mol (49) and Arcus (45), learned to cook out of sheer self-defense, otherwise they would have had to eat our maid's cooking. But they had inherited their father's tastebuds, the best of which had been allotted to Mol. And so, Miguel, Mol's son, at seven, was already a good cook like his dad. Ever since he was five, his father would sit him on the lotchen counter and let him pour in the milk, sugar, raisins or oats to stir into whatever it was Mol was cooking.

Then on Christmas someone gave Miguel a children's cookbook. From then on he preferred cooking to taking his siesta or watching cartoons. He made polygron, catmeal cookies, muffins, scones and something called Apple Dapple, which is an abbreviated apple pie. His yaya's only job was to light the gas oven.

Miguel made Apple Dapples until everyone in the compound got cross-eyed eating them. But he perfected the recipe. It became the hit of our Sunday lunches. His titos and titas said they wanted to order Apple Dapple, "How much, please?" Without skipping a beat, the little tyke answered, "P88."

His father was puzzled. "How did you figure out that price?" asked Mol, who knew the amount of apples and butter that went into the recipes. "It says the price in the cookbook," Miguel said, "Look." He opened the book to the Contents page and there it was. Apple Dapple... p. 88.

Dancing with my grandchildren

What else did you think you contributed to their family life, the interviewer wanted to know. So I told him that when my grandchildren were very small, we would lock ourselves out of sight in the study and do body movement, which is simply an intuitive free-form dance. Like a prayer. We would dance in complete silence, sometimes with tea candles scattered on the floor. It was lovely to see the little boys go into themselves, becoming the dance, becoming the prayer. My husband used to call it our voodoo dance, and of course, all the adults made fun of it.

Miguel was always the best mover, the instinctive dancer, just as he is the most graceful even in king fu. He was professional-quality even at that age and so I thought he should be given direction in some school of dance. But Mol was adamant—"Please, please, please, please, mominy nament Huwag!" He preferred his son to just gyrate like those tiresome dancers on TV because it was "normal."

I find this is a strange thing because my now old sons should remember the days when men wouldn't be caught dead using an egg beater. Now we have evolved to the point where any male who can put anything into an oven has a crack at being a celebrity. So why can't my cooking sons help push the envelope further by freeing the machos to dance and sew? I think the chances of becoming gay are the same whether you allow your son to dance or to strap a beltful of machine gun bullets around himself.

Losing my religion

What about religion? was another question the interviewer asked me. That was tough because he looked like a guy who went to Masa. I shot a pleading glance at my husband. But he looked straight at the interviewer, grinning, "Ask my wife that, too," he said.

Like most Filipino parents, when the kids were young, we went to Mass all together. To the 6 p.m. Mass, which was the last one in those mid '60s. Every time we had to get ready it was an ordeal to peel the kids off the TV. There was a lot of scolding and pinching just to get them to dress up. It was like that for years. It was not my idea at all of God, in church nobody astened to the sermon, which was invariably soporific. The men went out to smoke or chat and came in when it was over.

Then one day the driver snitched on Dad

and said that during sermon time he would cross the street to drink a beer. I realized what a farce it was. We had been born Catholics, but obviously it wasn't working and we were just too fearful to let go of our religion.

When we get home I called everybody and said, "From now on, only those who wish to go to Mass will go. The car will be at your disposal at 6 every Sunday." Two children went and two didn't. I think in 'eligion, as in anything, one must be allowed a choice. If you are Catholic, Born Again, Muslim, Sabadista or whatever and all you get out of it is gloom and guilt, you should quit.

Maybe what saved us as parents was that we decided to be the example to our kids of scrupulous honesty, farmess, respect for rights, kindness and joy (except when we fought). God is not in the church altar, values education is not in the printed page, it is in how the people you look up to act. (End of homily.)

By the time I felt'I truly knew God, the children were fully grown. But there were now—slurpl—a new set of little grandchildren to experiment on. All the nine grandchildren learned to meditate before they were 10, one as young as four. It's easy, I couldn't believe it until I practiced it after witnessing Nonoy Ozaeta in Chacra put under a whole bunch of kindergarmers. The children dive into meditation much more deeply and much faster than lousy adults (maybe because they have not so long been descended from heaven). Meditation connects them to God faster than a memorized and routine prayer.

Playing dead

Do you remember anything more normal that you did with your family that I can tell our average readers about? asked the frustrated journalist.

Let's see. I didn't cook breakfast for them. I didn't sew, I was afraid of blood. Whenever one of my children had a bigger than usual gash, I'd call the yuyu and cover my eyes while directing her to clean the wound with agua oxigenada, put Mercurochrome and cover with bandage and tape. I didn't fetch them to and from school either; the bus did that.

I think all I did with my children was play. I always volunteered as the "monster" and was a very popular one. I was an expert at all kinds of dying. I was always bathing in our big sunken tub with two or three of them and a wind-up mermaid. We walked in the flood (which wasn't so dirty then) and played in the mud and they got sick. Mosquitoes bit them but they didn't die.

With my grandchildren, I maybe improved a little. I invented their costumes for Filipino Week in school and misisted that the ones who talked English at home speak to me in Filipino. Every afternoon we had "tea" (fruit juice and anything from Oreos to otap) under the shade of a tree with chimes, and invented scary stories. When Rafa's pet turtle died, I went to the funeral wearing my best hat.

I don't think my husband was much better. He had indulged our children's every whim. He didn't believe that sparing the rod would spoil the child because kids who were severely punished bore deep resentments while those who get most of the things they wanted loved their daddies madly. One of his bookshelves was a handsomely stocked commissary with not a single healthy thing. But he was an armchair athlete and we went to public beaches (which were clean in the '60s) every Sunday because he wanted them all to be good swimmers. When I wasn't home he didn't help them with their homework. Sometimes he forgot to give them their allowance. Sometimes he boxed their ears.

But they grew up on their own, straight and happy and they loved us.

I often hear my friend Mariel worrying that since she was out of the house most of the time, maybe she had lost her children. Sometimes she felt, they didn't respect or love her. They were too combative, too independent, and before she knew it they would all be working or living abroad.

I don't think there's any mother who didn't go through such phases of guilt (except the enslaved ones, but that's another looney tune altogether). Maybe Mariel wasn't a mother hen, but she is a very intelligent person who can point to references you need on any topic, and even give you an insight or two. Don't tell me that's not something one's children value! I wish I had a mother like Mariel. It would have been so useful. Instead I had a mother who dressed me up and fussed over me and she rues a mother who didn't know eye shadow.

What I took for granted was those things about clothes and beauty, which were givens in my life. I concentrated on making sure that my sons and daughter grew up emotionally secure (which, in spite of all those beauty treatments, I wasn't) and maybe have strong egos (small "e") too. I didn't even know whether I was doing right,



I was just reacting to my own upbringing.

Everyday miracle

So my kids take for granted that they're not so neurotic, not so cuckoo. What's traumatic, Arcus (now a bank executive) told me, was "my pants. I always wore hand-medowns. You never bought me a decent pair."

One time, during basketbail, he recalled, he was about to dunk and his khaki shorts split from stem to stem. His friend George (now a surgeon) had to go with him to the lavatory to staple his shorts. (I thought it was good practice for George.)

So now my son Areus has two sons of his own, and they're the smartest-dressed kids on the block. Their imported pants never tear.

Their father sees to that. But you can't cover all the bases, you can't foresee all the holes. There will surely be something he has overlooked and he, too, will be guilty like us.

But the children will forgive him and love their parents in spite of it. Like our kids love us, staplers and all. Like Mariel will find out how much she is loved when she gets a little older and her kids are married. Like even A.L. knows, who split from her husband and turned gay and yet the children grew up balanced, musical and athletic.

miracle

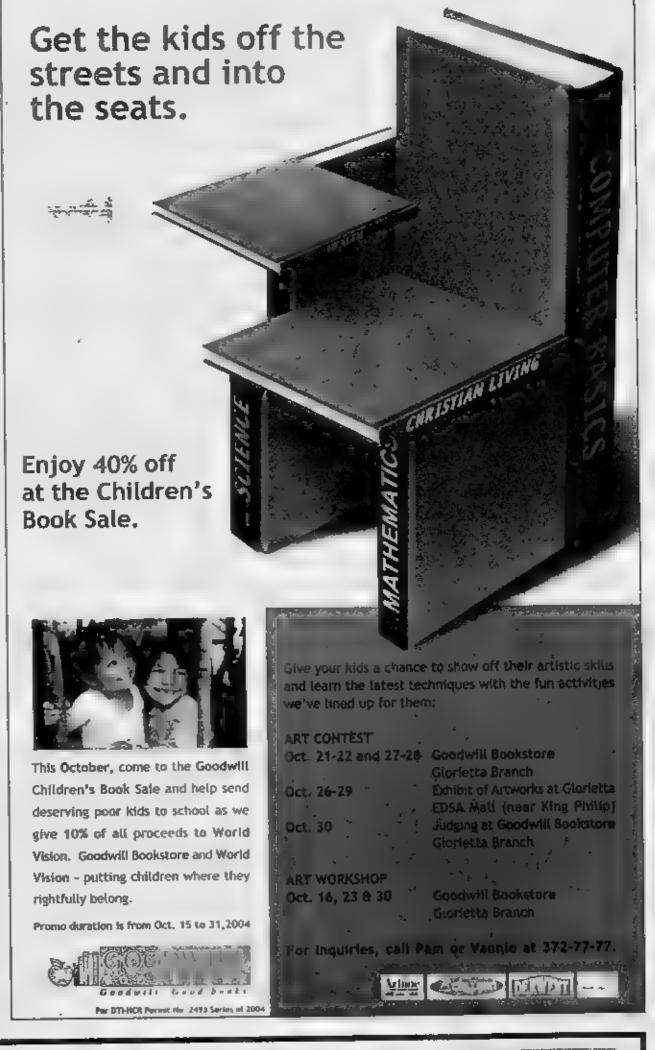
but it

happens

Somehow kids who are loved just turn out all right by themselves in spite of parents. Nobody knows how it happens. It's a miracle but it happens all the time.

The interviewer was not impressed.

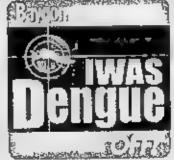
'Somehow kids who are loved just turn out all right by themselves in spite of parents. Nobody knows how it happens. It's a but it all the time'



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- 5. You will receive a text message that will display your updated regular load balance.

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Memories in glass

Castillo
layers
humor and
sociopolitical
awareness
in his
tabletop
sculptures

By Irene C. Perez

humor and
sociopolitical
awareness

Sociopolitical
awareness

Sociopolitical
awareness

Sociopolitical
afternoons taking turns on bamboo rafts, may sound foreign.

Such homely experiences have become novel since the local and the homespun are fading with every launching of the latest cell phone model. Bobby Casullo brings back a sense of locality to Filipino homes through glass sculptures idealizing nature.

in "Aspects," his fourth solo exhibit, at Bor-

ders, Castillo layers humor and sociopolitical awareness in his collection of art-glass table-top sculptures.

"People tend to use something that's in the environment, in the vicinity. Pero ngayon, 'yung mga rafts, wala na," Castillo says.

Castillo mixes surprising elements in his creations—sugar, salt, makeup, crayons, flowers, honey, even toothpaste.

His pieces, mostly of kilnformed glass, are musings from stories, myths and riddles of his childhood in Pagsanjan, Laguna.

"Salakot," the Asian hats series of lamps and howls, evokes Asian farming.

Visit was algo-compts from October to December and win e

Microwave Oven

and bowls, evokes Asian farming.
"Nilaib na Dahon ng Saging," about flame-

MEMORIES/12

LG Electronics Reinvents Laundry Care with its Frontload Washer

"NILAIB na Dahon

ng Saging" (flame-

treated banana leaf)

With cutting-edge design and technology, coupled with sophisticated engineering, LG Electronics (LGE), a global leader in digital home appliances, presents its unbelievably quiet frontload washer. Designed to address specific laundry needs such as energy and power consumption, fabric care, washing capacity and wrinkle control, the LG Frontload Washer reflects LG's tradition of superior performance, reliability and design.

LGE's state-of-the-art= technology, eliminates the brush and belt which are the major causes of defects. This greatly reduces the unpleasant sounds which users normally hear from conventional washers. The technology also makes possible the integration of the motor, belt and pulley into a single quiet and durable motor directly attached to the drum. This more stable balancing system promotes low vibration and reinforces the washer's durability

With a 7 kg washing capacity, the LG's Frontload Washer also allows users to save on energy and time. It features the Intelligent Washing System that senses washing conditions such as water hardness, detergent amount and water temperature, depending on the type of loads. Aside from greatly reducing energy consumption, washing clothes under specified washing conditions also increases the clothes' washability by 15% and rinsability by 12%.

The LG Frontload Washer boasts of 3 Way Washa by Direct Drivea. The technology sets 3 individual washing types into one combined program based on fabric types. The result? Perfect washing performance that promotes whiter whites, delicate and gentle fabric care, and better washability.

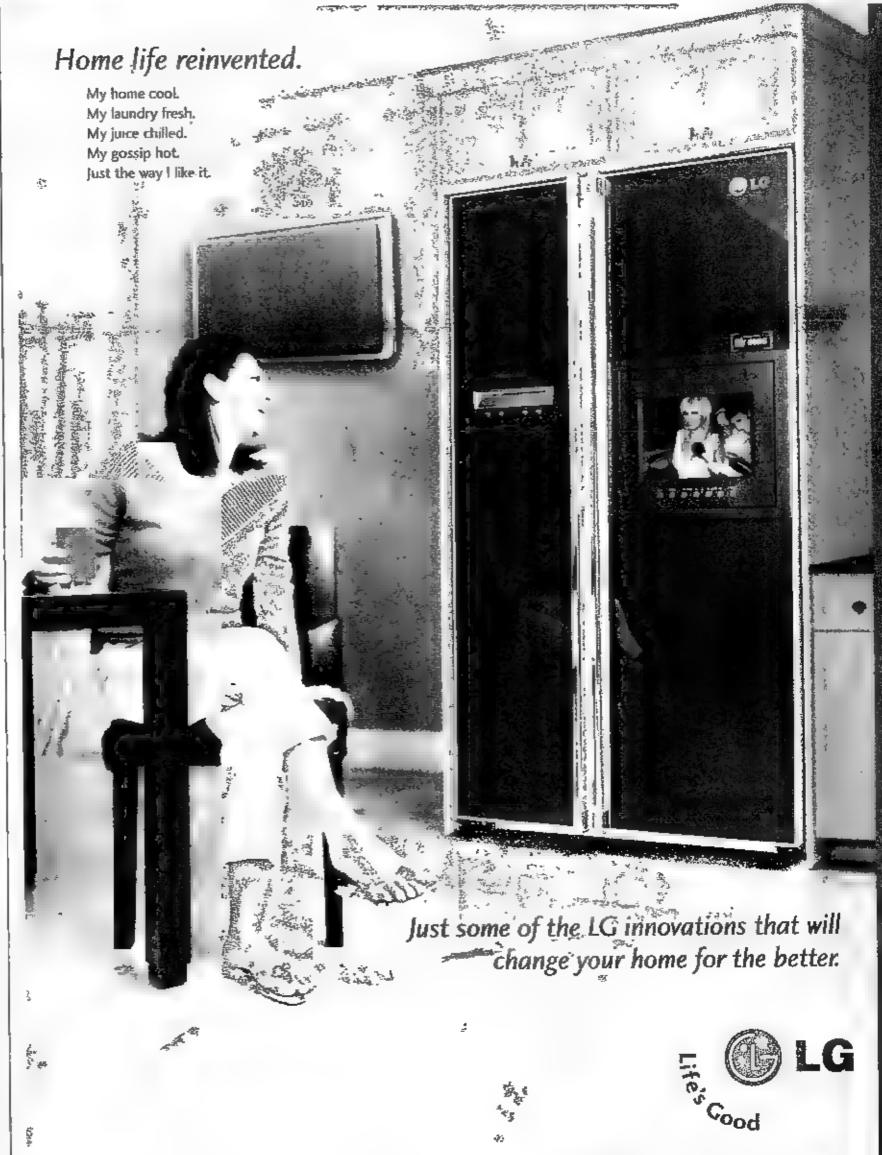
LG Electronics Philippines (CEO: Jeff Hong) was established in 1988 as the digital leader in Home Apphances and Display Devices by introducing breakthrough and cutting edge products in the Electronics, Information and Communications products arena with an annual sales of P 2.5 Billion and employing more than 200 highly motivated and skilled individuals.

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LG Electronics' Goal is to enable the intelligent networking of digital products that will make consumers' lives easier than ever. For more information please log on to www.ige.com.ph or catl the LG Customer Information Center at 640-2525.

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CASTILLO used kilnformed glass with

"Highway Series."

individually hand-applied textures in his

Memories

From page F

treated banana leaves, is seen through freeform draped vessels of patterned and fused layers of green glass. Heat-wilted banana leaf is a common food-wrapper, as it enhances food aroma and flavor. But save for a few specialty restos, it has been bumped off by styrofoam and plastic microwavables.

Castillo says Mark Twain would have loved his "Balsang Kawayan," a raft made of pieces of kilnformed glass resembling bamboo poles set on coldworked glass stand.

"Kesong Lumban," a blue glass cheeseboard with pinewood insert, glorifies the cottage cheese industry—a trade that provides livelihood to natives of Lumban, Laguna.

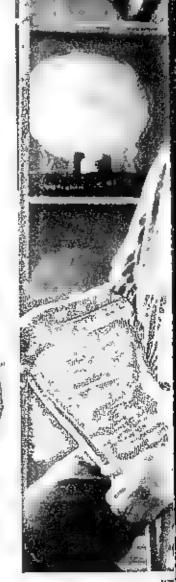
In his "Fighway Series" composed of pieces with individually hand-applied textures, Castillo wonders, "What if you could plant on those roads instead of contend with the pressures and frustrations of being stuck in traffic?"

'Incomplete art'

An artist by "accident" (he was in the food simple life of Asian farming homes, business before shifting to glass manufactur-



"SALAKOT," the Asian Hats Series of fused, slumped and painted glass, is a reminder of the simple life of Asian farming homes.



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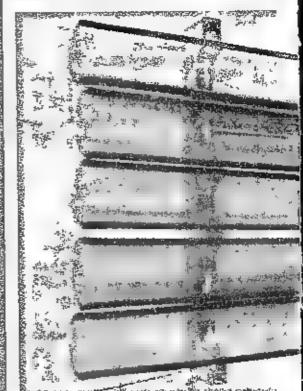
ing), Castido describes himself as a nummalist who is open to variety. He says his works are unfinished but functional.

"They are not complete on their own. The function depends on the user, how he makes use of it. Hindi buo ang meaning hangga't hindi no kunukulit," he says.

Some people have described these pieces that ask for completion as having "understated elegance."

"It takes more courage to [make a statement] with just a line or two. To be able to put this out, to sell it, kallangan pala malakas ang loob mo. Because you have to take out all of the other elements and show it in its naked reality."

Castillo used to do very complicated things that evolved into very simple items. It is all a matter of satisfying his curiosity and creativity. He was "discovered" by designer Rachy Cuna. He usually consults artists Lao Lianben, Arturo Luz and Jose Mendoza



ONE of the grandest pieces in the collection, "Balsai taking turns on a hamboo raft on the river.



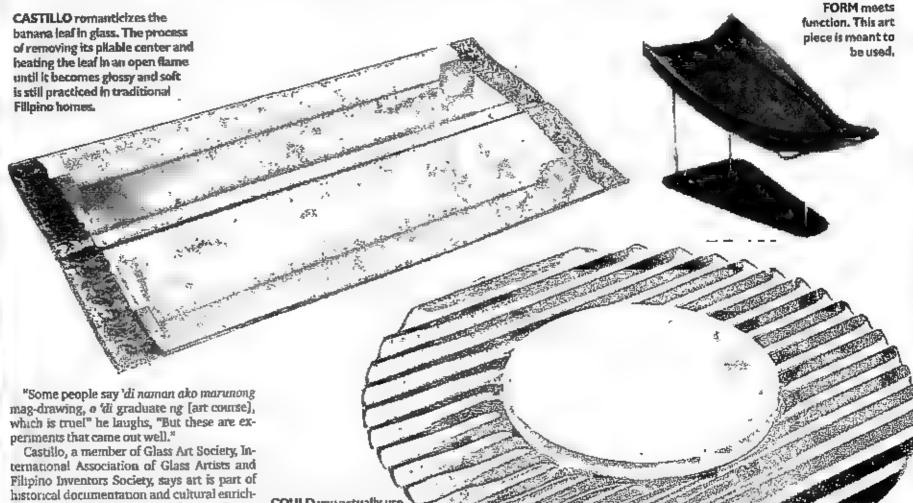
ENVIRONMENTAL SALE

THE MANILA Seedling Bank Environmental Comproducts such as fruit trees, forest trees, orchids. Oct. 18 to Nov 15. The traditional bagsak-presso specially on fruit trees and forest trees. The public environmental sale. Managany, narra, auri, rain to will also be sold at a discounted price of P5. MSBF Cail MSBF Sales Dept. at 9299312 or 9247001 02





HESE are unfinished works. The function depends on the user. You may put them in the kitchen, tabletop, bathroom, use them to serve food. You have to complete them," Castillo says.



COULD you actually use

of thick blue glass and

a yummy breakfast of

toasted pandesol and native cheese.

pinewood, harks back to

this to slice cheese? "Kesong Lumban," made

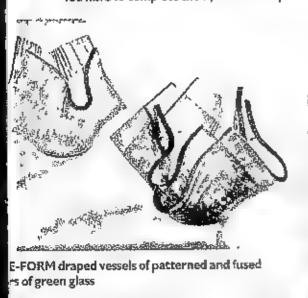
ories of the traditional Filipino home, as represented in cold, hard glass.

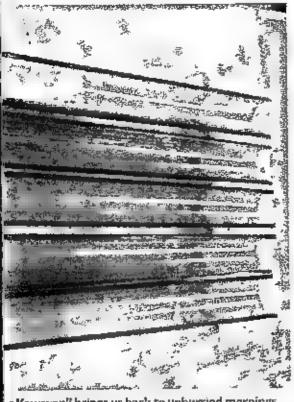
ment. He put up Glass Art Technique Center to provide technical support and educate to

His works are the delicate and fragile mem-

Visit www.bobbycastillo.com

budding artists.

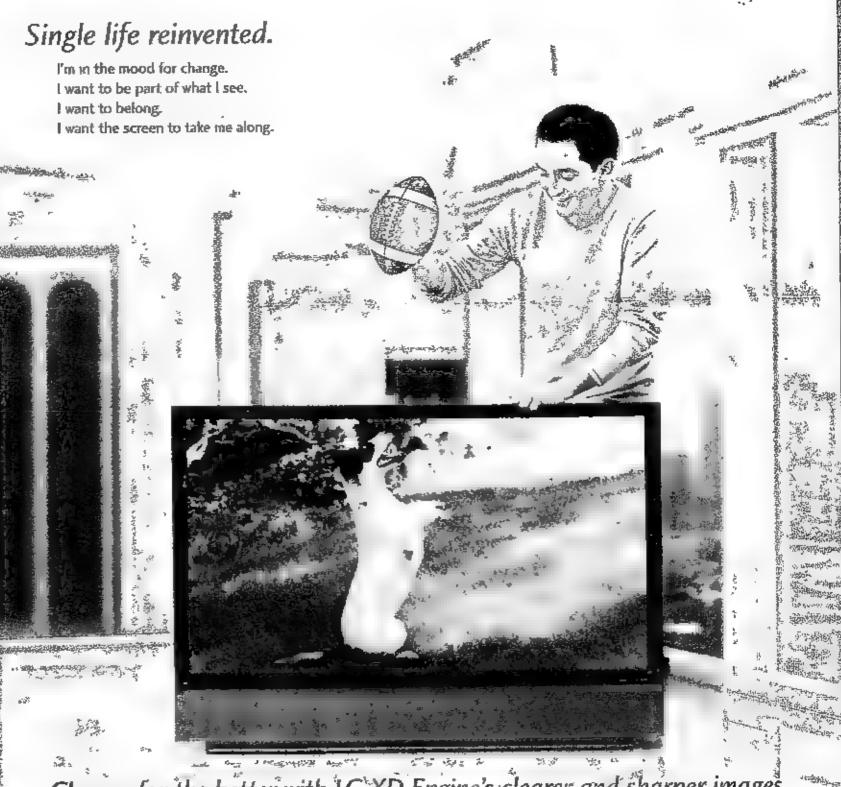




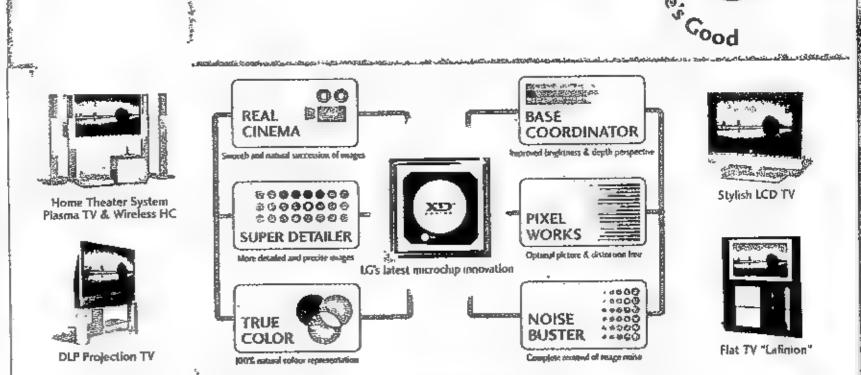
g Kawayan" brings us back to unhurried mornings



er will hold its traditional sale of environmental rnamentais, bonsal and collectible stones from tle will offer discounts by as much as 50 percent, is invited to take part in this once-a-year e, acacias, guyobano, longka and carabao mango s open from 8-6 p.m., Monday to Sunday.



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SundayLIFESTYLE

Will Manilans lose a much-needed 'lung'?

Metro Manila's streets have to be widened and traffic jams minimized, the first thing our city officials think of doling is cut down trees? What is it about trees that elicits such cruelty?

Perhaps it's because trees are enviably strong, sturdy and immovable. They are incapable of protest, bribery or boot-licking. And, more than that, they don't vote so they're expendable. And, like the Queen of Hearts in Lewis Carroll's novel who would order "Off with their heads!" when people displeased her, local officials have the trees cut down.

But what are the heads of trees? They are leafy canopies, reaching out to heaven, shading people from the harsh rays of the sun, helping to filter the dust and carbon dioxide so everyone can breathe clean air. The roots have their own function—sopping up the rain and preventing floods.

Destruction as solution

But evidently these virtues don't count. And so cutting trees has become the solution to urban development problems. How trong to call it that when it is destruction that is happening instead.

We see it done on Katipunan Road in Quezon City, in many lesser known places in Manila and, now, the latest, in the Arroceros Forest Park, a patch of land between the Metropohtan Theater-Mehan Garden complex and the Pasig River. Arroceros Park is where the old buildings of the Despartment of Education stood, a few steps away from the old Government Service Insurance System and Philippine Veterans Affairs buildings (emp-

ty now but convertible to new uses).

A battle of sorts is going on between those who want to build structures that do not belong to a forest park, where—as a matter of fact—alignate is occupied by trees, and those



who want to conserve the site for environmental, historical, aesthetic and health reasons.

One side argues that since it is city property, the forest park is under the jurisd ction of the local government, which intends to build there, as far as we know, a school and a bus terminal, among others, that will inevitably involve the cutting of trees.

Heeding a call

The other side contends that in 1992, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed between the mayor of Manila at the time and a women's organization called Winner that ralked to the call for help of then First Lady Ming Ramos in her environmental projects.

The MOA allowed Winner members to work on the conservation of Arroceros Forest Park, giving them their project focus. They took their task seriously, readying seedlings and saphings for planting in the site where, they noted, several ancient trees were already growing. There was no doubt in their minds that this patch of land that was turning into a muni-forest could be made into a much-needed green haven in a dust-poved site.

But the park, they soon realized, was more than a forest. It was also an archeological/historical—site,—declared as such by the National Historical Institute and the National Museum. It was part of the Parian connection where previous excavations had uncovered porcelain shards and other chinaware.

The MOA set no time limit to Winner's project in the park, says Regina R. Paterno, Winner president, but members themselves drew up a 15year time table that would end in 2015. The forest park could be given back to the City of Manila then in its finished form—a landmark and an eco-tourism destination

Bird watchers' delight

Although the present controversy has halted much of the planned work, those scheduled for 1996-2001 (phase one) have been accomplished. They include continued planting and maintenance (the Manila Seedling Bank reports the planting of 8,481 trees, including second growths, while the Haribon Poundation says 10 kinds of birds have been spotted in the area).

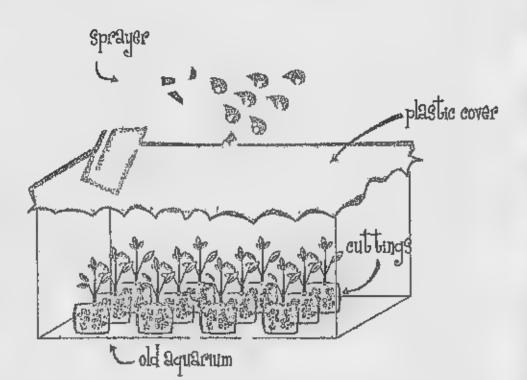
Other done deeds are linkups with schools and media and environmental non-government organizations. As a matter of fact, the group was well into work scheduled for up to 2007 (phase two) when it was interrupted

Considering that workers hired by Winner are often not allowed entry to the Park, the group has resorted to conducting a Sunday activity when artists converge there to paint the beauty of its lushness. In this sense, the park, half-finished as it is, has become an art center. Artists and art lovers come (in increasing numbers each week) because they lament the loss of a much-needed city "lung" and because the place is beautiful and has the potential for spiritual renewal.

It is so beautiful, in fact, it just can't be left to unintelligent "development."

Our country is in a fiscal crisis (we used to call it an economic mess) when national leaders begin to think in terms of food coupons for the poor Let us not make ourselves poorer still by depriving ourselves of the beautiful, healthful and free gifts of nature around us—our trees

E-mail the author at dortsnuyda@yahoo.com



Top cuts

GREEN TIPS

By Serapion Metilla Contributor

THE RAINY season is also growing season so plant propagation will be easier.

One way to propagate plants is by using top-cuttings. Use cuttings that have three to four nodes, with tender and still greenish stems. Old and gray-ush stems will not easily take root.

Cutting should be done late afternoon Remove some of the leaves from the lower nodes

and immediately soak the stems in a rooting hormone solution with Hormex or ANAA. To make the solution, add 10-15 drops of the hormone to a half gallon of clean water shady area for about a shady area for about a week before exposing them to full sunlight.

Some of the plants that can be propagated by stem cuttings are the

In small plastic propagating bags with fine, washed river sand, insert the stems at least 1½ inches deep. Although some plants can be easily propagated in ordinary potting medium and in an open but shady area, it is best to place them inside a propagating chamber. An old aquarium can

be covered with transparent plastic sheet all around. The transparent material will allow sufficient light to penetrate while moisture will be retained inside the chamber for high humidity.

Put the chamber in a shady but well-lighted spot. Daily watering should be done by applying a fine mist on the leaves and stems

Afterward, use a potting mixture of one part garden soil, one part riv-

er sand, one part coco corr dust and one part aged rice hull. Then keep the plants in a shady area for about a

sunlight.
Some of the plants that can be propagated by stem cuttings are the crotons (San Francisco), papua, Serissa foetida, herbs (both culinary and medicinal), dracaenas, begonias, kalyos, ti plants, Fukien tea, kamuning, sinamono and bougainvil-

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Up close with Uncle Ho

Text and photos by Gibbs Cadiz

OU can't view Ho Chi Minh's body if you're in a sleeveless shirt. Ditto if you're wearing shades. You can't take a camera or cell phone with you or talk while filing past the glass crypt. And no arms alombo

We learned that firsthand when we made a trip to Hanor via Ho Chi Minh Ciry (formerly Saigon) in Vietnam, courtesy of Philippine Airlines, which is offering "Swingaround" tour packages (see related story on page J2) to some of the world's most tantalizing destinations like Bangkok, Kathmandu, Las Vegas, Shanghai, Vancouver and... okay, Singapore.

The hardy Vietnamese remain under firm Communist rule, but



THE IMPOSING Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum in Hanoi houses the preserved body of the Communist revolutionary-statesman who led Vietnam in its wars of liberation against the French, Japanese and the Americans.

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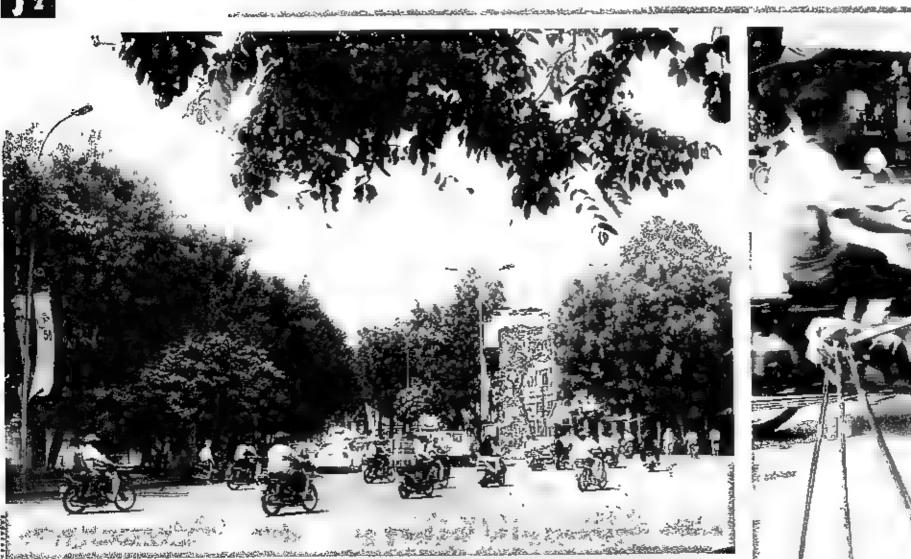
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CIOSC Uncle IIIo

Prompage [I

shonestly, they look none the worse for it. Sure, Hanoi looks a bit deresict compared to Makati, and the general vibe itself seems locked in some late '70s time warp, with many men still dressed in high-waisted, ill-tapered pants and shirts two sizes bigger than their slender frames. (They were mostly thin-we never saw any obese people in Hanoi.)

Women were a bit more modern, but filten again, all they had to do was slip into San go dat (pronounced "aw jai") to look the and beautiful.

3 Yes, Vietnamese women are lovely personifications of Eastern grace and mystique. The ao dai's naturally elegant silhougette recalls a bygone giamour, but what's striking is you can still see these flitting forms of color everywhere. The Vietnamese are clearly proud of their national costume,

and they show it by wearing the dress any time they could.

Palpable charm

That's part of what gives the city a palpable if bedraggled charm: The old ways often interact effortlessly with the new. We saw a couple of young an dat-clad girls riding a Vespa, presumably on their way to work. It was a picturesque sight.

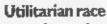
Hanoi speaks of character, a genuine gentility. This was a city ravaged by years of war and destruction, the very nerve center of North Vietnamese resistance first against the French, then the Japanese and the

But how it has picked itself up! You drive along neat, tree-lined boulevards with ample walkways for pedestrians, and you feel you're in the middle of a giant park. Day temperatures can be really hot, but the cool

shade makes the city an oasis. Hardly any billboards obscure the French colonial architecture that still dominates the skyline.

There are more motorbikes in Vietnam than cars. Automobiles remain out of reach for many ordinary Vietnamese, so Hanoi's streets hum to these nimble machines. Perhaps because cars are more the exception than the norm, traffic lights are few and far

Crossing the street, then, becomes quite and so on until you reach the other side. Vietnamese oders simply weave in and out of pedestrians and cars, but they do slow ways and eternal spirit down once they see you crossing.



Goods are cheap, and there's a certain high in handling currency by the hundreds of thousands. One US dollar is equivalent to 15,700 Viemamese dong. Try running that in your head when you're buying an art work for \$20.

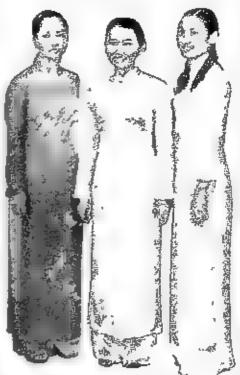
But if you're into high-stakes shopping, this isn't the place for you. Hanol is already the capital of Vietnam, yet its most upscale mall is more Harrison Plaza than Greenbelt. It has Prada and Gucci and Cartier, all right, but it has none of the brazen, dazzling commercial ism we're so used to in our own malls.

Or maybe because, while Vietnamese are increasingly allowed to own private property, even open businesses, they remain a highly utilitatian, rightly-skippered race. Is that good or bad? Who knows?

The first-rate restaurant we were brought to, called Thang Long, in the heart of Hanor's business district, turned out to be owned by the government. That floored us, because everything in the resto seemed to work fine-the service, the look, the food. Especially the food (the crab and vermicell) spring rolls wrapped in rice paper were heavenly). Could that ever happen here?

Hanoi is a window a tango-two steps forward, one step back, into Vietnam's changing

274-200



THESE Saigon misses look lovely in the oo dai, Vietnam's national costume.

Government seems to be every but woven so tightly into the fabric life. The bottles of water were en-yup, they were made by the ment, too, so our guide casually in us. Ah, so that's why there was of brand everywhere

VIETNAME'

pineapple an

Such control can be scary. Still, ye help but marvel at the Vietnamese's; self-sufficiency. On an early morning around the city, we were astonished to many individuals, even whose familia cising in their yards, on sidewalks, it doing brisk walking, savoring the clea-

Mass catisthenics on this scale is thing alien to our sedentary lifestyles. Could it be why these per now threatening to outstrip us? I they're strong and healthy and no flabby by burgers, fries and pizza? (1) no McDonald's, KFC or Pizza Hat in by the way.)

Boring and anachronistic

So, on the one hand, a country st grips of a dated ideology can be a anachronistic place, where you s splendid lunch in the garden of a re French villa while the backgroun sic-Rick Astley's "Never Gonna G Up^o—nearly makes you choke.

On the other hand, you see the vur proudly defiant, hardworking country to make it on its own terms-damn McDonald and Starbucks, Say what v about that quaint old palaver called tism, but surely Uncle Ho (as the Viet



HO Chi Minh's paternal shadow looms over every corner of Vietnam, as In the Saigon General Post Office Building (left). Built in 1886-1891, its beautifully preserved interior (top) is dominated by the revered leader's stern visage, even as it plays host to 21st-century trappings such as cellphone card



MOTORBIKES far outnumber cars in Vietnam.



COMMIE capitalism is alive and well in this store outside the Chi Minh Mausoleum that sells Uncle Ho busts and Red Art

Hotel stay earns frequent flyer points

China Southern Airlines and Marriott Infil. inc. announce that Sky Pearl Club mambers can earn double frequent flyer program (FFP) miles for every qualified stay at the new Sanya Mar-Giott Resort and Spa until Oct. 30

Sanya's Phoenix Int'l. Airport connects Chi-Sna Southern Airlines flights to all major Chinese cities, as well as to international destinations like Seout and Hong Kong. The Sky Pearl Club has currently more than two million mem-

Vish the Marriott Holef chain website, http://www.marriett.com and the China Southern Arrilnes's website, www.cs-air.com/en.

Personal and business travel destinations

Singapore and Thailand are tied as top regional destinations for personal travel in

Asia/Pacific. A recent Masterindex on Travel survey conducted by MasterCard International May-June put China at third. The most frequent destinations for business travel were Chica, Singapore and Hong Kong.

Locally, Philippine Airlines was the single most preferred carrier for business travel, followed by both Singapore Airlines and Other Airtings. A little over a fourth of Filipino respondents Identified China and Singapore as thu most frequently visited countries, followed by

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P8,600++ for a three-bedroom salte, thage comes with a complimentary buffet fast at the Serend pity counge; unlim te room dial-up internet access compline parking access to health club, swimmiand Jacuzzi, and a 20-percent discount massage services from Discovery Spa-

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UNCLE Ho's ramrod-straight honor guard in their immaculate uniforms

call him) did his countrymen a signal service by giving them a spine

If only for that, today he is a much revered con. And that's how, visiting the imposing Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum in Hanoi, we were made aware of the niceties required to view the body of the late great watrior.

Entering the sanctum where his remains lay was a spookily fascinating experience. The light was a dim red, the honor guard in their immaculate white garb stood unmoving on all four sides of the bier, and Uncle Ho in his glass crypt looked eerily ethercal. His emba.mer (or is it wax caretaker?) did a good job.

That's when a guard by our side brusquely grabbed our arms and brought them down. We had them crossed on our chest (it was freezing inside), and we were being disrespectful. Even in death, Uncle Ho is a stern leader.

Afterward, we went out blinking in the sunshine and were led to a row of shops on the mausoleum grounds. They were selling Uncle Ho busts and figurines, Red Army shirts, hammer-and sickle pendants, Che Guevarra prints. Capitalism has caught up big-time with Uncle Ho and his country. If we don't watch out, we may be eating dust soon

E-mail the author at gcadiz@inquirer com ph

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free cans of soft drinks or beer Cool Stay also gives you access to the ho-

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Swing around the world

aside for a planned holiday, where would you go?

You can try Philippine Arrimes' Swingaround tour package to the former Salgon (now Ho Chi Minh City) in Vietnam, for starters. A three-day. two-night stay in a deluxe hotel in the city (with free breakfast) sets you

that tag goes down to \$300 each. For \$11 more, you get a half-day city tour that covers visits to, among others, the Notre Dame Cathedral, the beautiful City Hall and the former US embassy (remember the helicopter scene in "Miss Salgon"?).

If visiting symbols of imperial defeat isn't your idea of enrichment, how about touring an ancient and priceless cultural treasure? The port-hotel-airport transfers, holiday-

IF you had \$400 (about P22,000) set Saigon Swingaround also offers an extension visit to Angkor Wat in neighboring Cambodia. Now that's a

holiday swing you can't pass up.
Philippine Airlines' "Swingaround" program offers such value-for-money tour packages to some of the most popular destinations in the airline's global route network. Among the other cities covered are Bangkok, Guam, Drag a companion with you and Hong Kong, Honolulu, Jakarta, Kathmandu, Kuala Lumpur, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Okinawa, San Francisco, Seoul, Shanghai, Singapore, Vancouver and Xiamen.

The program is designed to give travelers a quick peek into a city's historical and custural attractions, with arrangements that suit various tastes, budgets and preferences. Aside from round-trip Fiesta Class tickets and air-

seekers can choose from an array of three-star to five-star hotel partners, as well as other add one like

Extension tours like Hanoi and Angkor Wat are also optional, but tickets to these destinations may only be booked with PAL if you're taking the Manila-Saigon-Manila tour

counterpart program for local desunations is also available, called "PALakbayan" tours. So if you feel more comfortable about spending your holiday money

the optional city tours.

within the country, pick from beautiful destinations like Bacolod, Bohol, Boracay, Cagayan de Oro, Cebu, Dipolog, General Santos, lloilo, Lacag and Sorsogon.

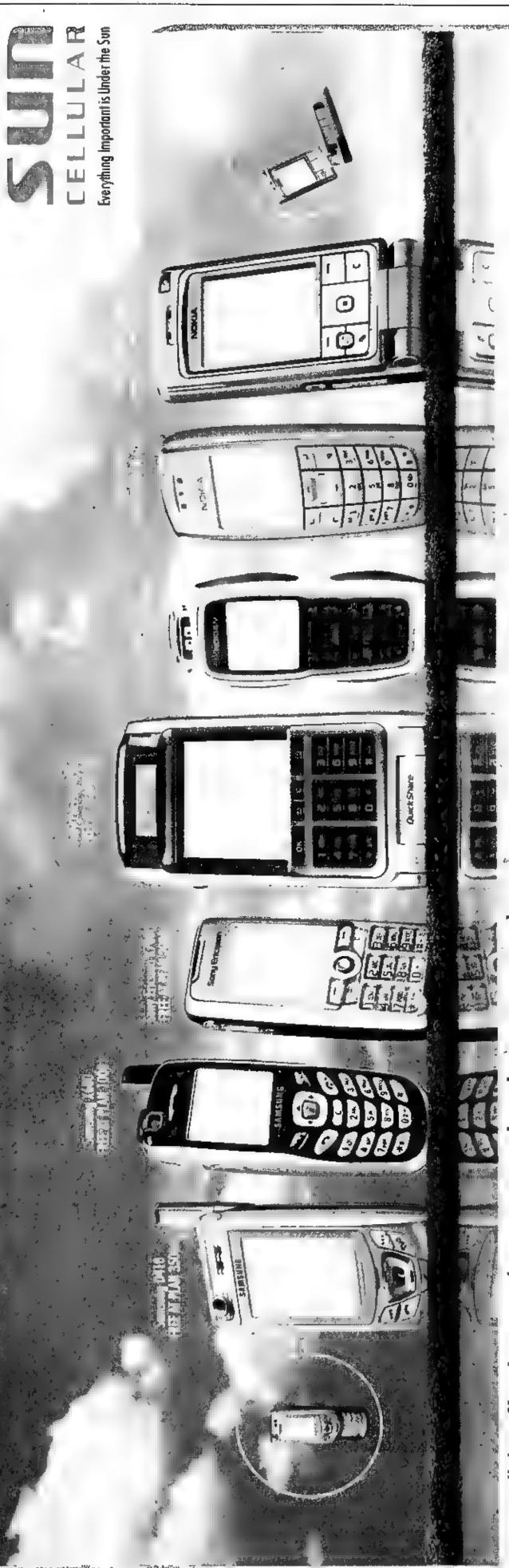
The "Swingaround" and "PALakbayan" tour packages are valid yearround. Bookings must be made at least seven days before your departure Gibbs Cadiz

Call 8557777, visit the nearest PAL Ticket Office or your travel agent, or log on www.philippineair-



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In the Languedoc-Roussillon region of France, wine-making achieves the stature of science without shaking off the romance

AS far as the eye can see, nothing but buds breaking on vines between the majestic mountains of the Pyrenees and the PROTOSTAKEN WITH FULL FINERIX FIGU ZOOM Mediterranean sea



WINE tasting of five vintages of Baron'Arques at the Salon Dame Carcas in Hotel de la Cite

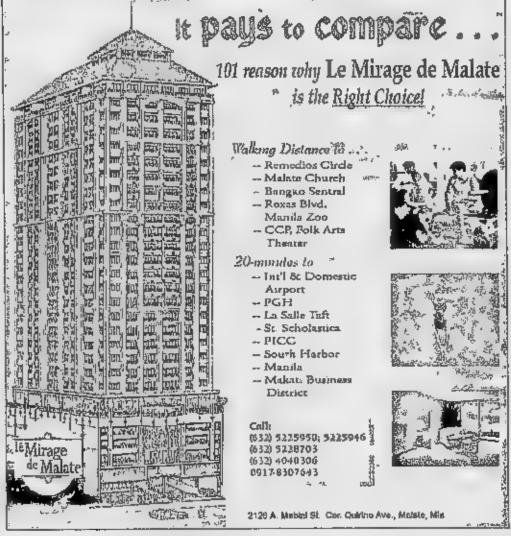
Text and photos by Chelo Banal-Formoso

NCE a year, in the oldest wine-producing region of France, the world's most prominent chefs, restaurateurs and wine enthusiasts are invited to bid on barrels of fine red wine. After the usual blending, aging and other magical tricks of the trade, the wine is bottled and labeled to the specifications of the winning bidders and shipped to their kitchens or cellars, wherever on the planet those may be.

Dubbed "Toques et Clochers," the auction is a tradition started in 1989 by the Vignerons Du Sieur D'Arques (VSA), a cooperative of grape growers in Languedoc-Roussillon to raise funds for the preservation of the reg on's architectural heritage.

What happened this year was that the chefs from the Philippines, Glenda Barretto of Via Mare and Myrna Segismundo of 9501, did not make it to France in time for this major event, But through special arrangements made by wine maven Tita Trillo, Baron Philippe de Rothschild S.A. (BPDR) graciously hosted guided tours of its vineyards and cellars at a tater date for both chefs, with Tite and myself in tow. Unlike my three companions who placed orders for barrels of the Baron'Arques Grand Cru red, 2000 vintage, I went along for the pure pleasure

THROUGH/ KZ





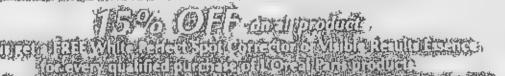
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From page Ki

of gorging on the beauty of the Southern French country and its aguid treasures.

When we visited, it seemed like there was nothing to see but undurating rows of gnarly grapevines. Later we discovered that buds were breaking in miles and miles of vineyards breathtakingly bordered by the dark mountains of the Pyrenees on one side and the Med terranean sea on the other

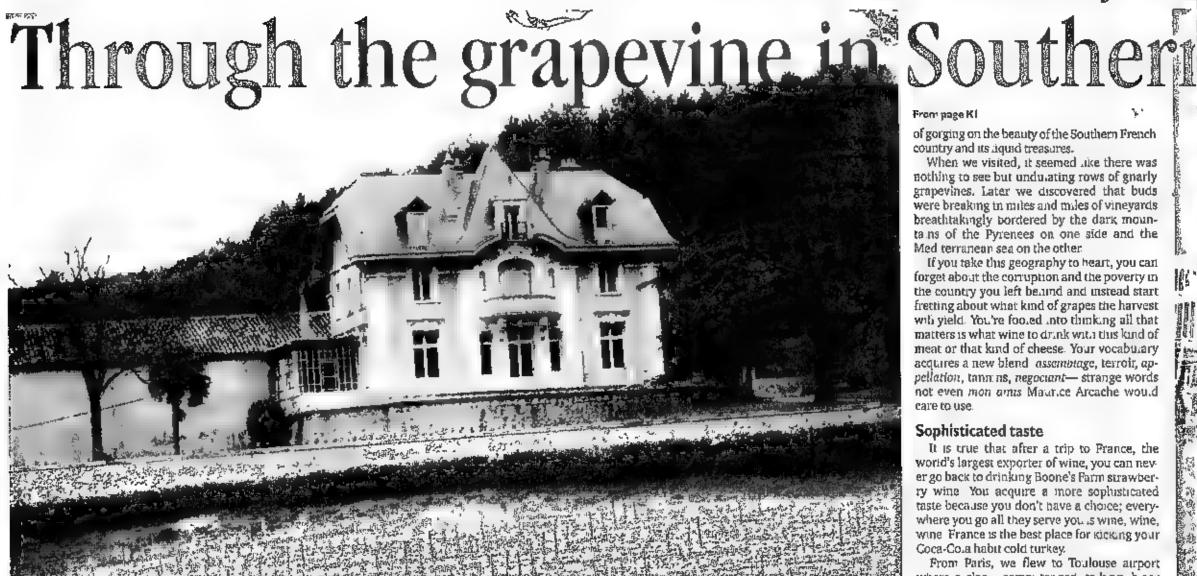
If you take this geography to heart, you can forget about the corruption and the poverty in the country you left beamd and instead start fretting about what kind of grapes the harvest will yield. You're fooled into thinking all that matters is what wine to drink with this kind of meat or that kind of cheese. Your vocabulary acquires a new blend assemblage, terroir, appellation, tannins, negociant- strange words not even mon arms Maurice Arcache would

Sophisticated taste

It is true that after a trip to France, the world's largest exporter of wine, you can never go back to drinking Boone's Farm strawberry wine You acquire a more sophisticated taste because you don't have a choice; everywhere you go all they serve you is wine, wine, wine France is the best place for kicking your Coca-Co.a habit cold turkey.

From Paris, we flew to Toulouse airport where a sleek, computer zed, talking black car driven by a good-tooking young man

CHA



ALSO in Languedoc where Baron'Arques is produced is the Domain de Lambert, a new acquisition of Baroness Philippine de Rothschild.

WINE Appreciation 10! for chef Myrna Segismundo of 9501, Vincent Montigaud, managing director of Baron'Arques, restaurateur and wine importer Tita Trillo of Anthony's Wine Cellar and Magnum, Guilhelm Marty, technical director of Vignerons Du Sieur D'Arques and chefrestaurateur Glenda Barretto of Via Mare.

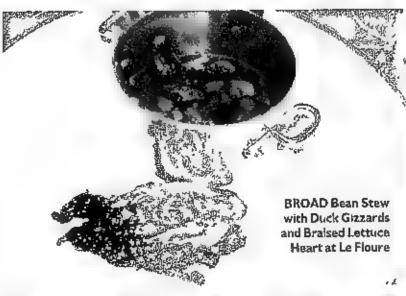


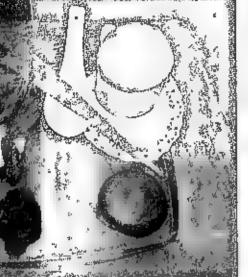
BARON'ARQUES red is the classic product of the union of BPDR's wine-making skills and the grapes grown by same of the best vineyards in the Languedoc region.





BEEF Fil.et with Potato and Oxtall Lasagna at Chez Saskia







NEVER ever go to France when you're on any kind of a diet because you will be seriously tempted by a dessert sampler at Le Poete Disparu, Duet of Meriu Fish with Fresh Herbs and Sacclop Essense at Le Domaine d'Auriac a Pot au Feu and Cassoulet at Chez Saskia.



Question of the Week

Change the world. We can make this world a better place. As a Filipino, I can make a difference in our country by

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/Metro Manile winners can call Chey at 8978605 loc. 216, Provincial winners can lexi-inquirer ad name/city/mailing address 2207 of 283 as their prizes will be marted to fit



TEAU Mouton Rothschild in Pauillac, home of Baroness Philippine de Rothschild who collaborated with the grape growers' cooperative to produce Baron'Arques

named Sebastian was waiting to take us to the Hote, de la Cite in Carcassone, a medieva, city so quaint it deserves a story ali, its own

Before checking in, we had a quick lunch at Chez Saslua, the hotel's brasserie. Here the chefs in our company took charge of selecting the food and, believe me, in their hands is the best place to be Energized by the pot au-feu (stew), homemade cassoutet (white bean stew), beef fillet with potato and ox ta... lasagna, tarte tatin (apple tart) with vanilla ice cream, which Glenda and Myma ordered to be shared by all, we rode out to the Capitelle de Baron'Arques. The winery is jointly owned by BPDR and VSA

Vincent Montigaud, managing director of Baron'Arques, and Guilhem Marty, technical director of Vignerons, we comed us with big ambrellas for a rainy tour of the vineyards, vat house and barrel hall that produce Baron'Arques, a Grand Crux red made of almost equal parts Bordeaux grapes and Mediterranean varieties.

"We select vines which are owned by members of the cooperative. The wine is produced by Baron'Arques and sold to Rothschild, which markets it to the world," explained Montigaud

Handpicked

The grapes come from four villages around Limoux with varying climates and soil quality -clay, pebble, sand, etc. They are lab-tested for maturity and, when deemed ready, p.cked by hand and brought to the Capitelle for sorting, destemming, crushing and varting in stainless stee.

No wonder French wine is expensive Imagine all that land dedicated to growing the grapes, all that waiting for the wine to age, al. that storage space for vats, barrels and

"Harvest time is fun, we have a good party," said Vincent. No more grape stomping these days like in the movie "A Walk in the Clouds," but for fun, said Vincent, it could be arranged Would we want to do it? I said I'd stomp grapes with Keanu Reeves any day-I don't care how gay they say he is. But harvest time was a good five months away so for now Keant, was safe

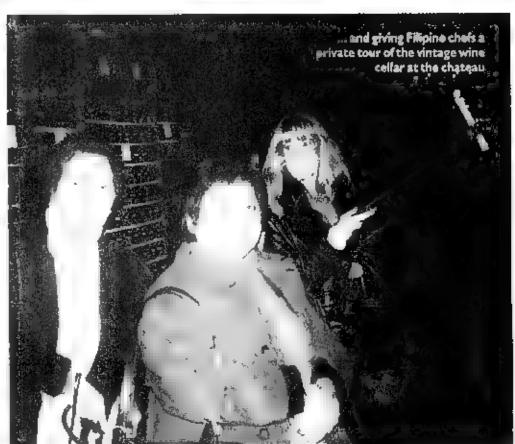
In the vats was the wine from the 2003 harvest. The wine is aged in French oak barrels (50 percent new, 50 percent 1-year-old) before it is transferred to tanks for refining and maturing, as is befitting a Grand Cru wine. What do they do with the used barrels? "We sell them to Spain," said Vincent.

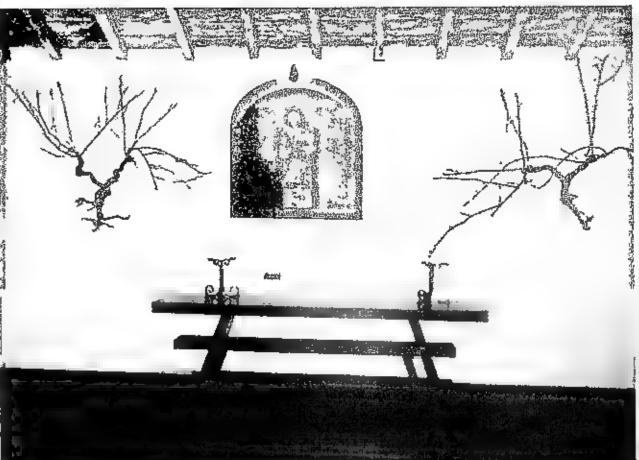
Every day between September and December, the cel armaster at Baron'Arques tastes the wine in each tank. He is trusted to know if it's a good lot or not. "Then we have an assentblage session-the cellarmaster, the wine maker of Baron Philipe du Rothsc.n.d and Baron'Arques and myself," explained Monti-

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BPDR'S Martine Courtiade showing samples of vines planted in the front yard for the education of visitors...







VINTNER'S shrine at BPDR.

gaud. "It's a business that demands patience."

They taste each lot to determine if it's a keeper. "If not good enough for Grand Crux, we sell the wine to be made into varietal wines," said Montigaud

He insisted there was no chance their wine could be duplicated in another year, or by another vintuer After al., the assemblage is only one part of the wine making-the harvest has something to do with the characteristic of the wine, as do the soil, the climate and the alti-

"Upon obtaining the first wine, determining the quality and blending the wine, we select the lots that we want to keep," he added. After botting, the wine is kept at the winery for at least two more years for a second aging.

Vintage

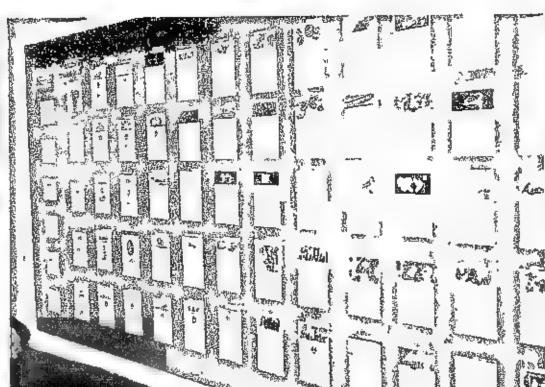
BPDR and Baron Arques produce wine that can be kept for several years. "We make wine that can be drank after three, four years," said Vincent, "but we try also to make wine we can keep in the cellar, if we want, for 15-20 years. If you serve this wine in a restaurant it's better to decant it "

If you find a wine that you like, you should remember the vintage or year, advised Vincent. As for the Baron'Arques vintage 2000 which was my travel companions' object of desire, it has been described as a very good year indeed.

THROUGH/ K4



BARRELS of fun are made of French oak for that classic French flavor



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Sunday Lifestyle Through the grapevine in Southern France

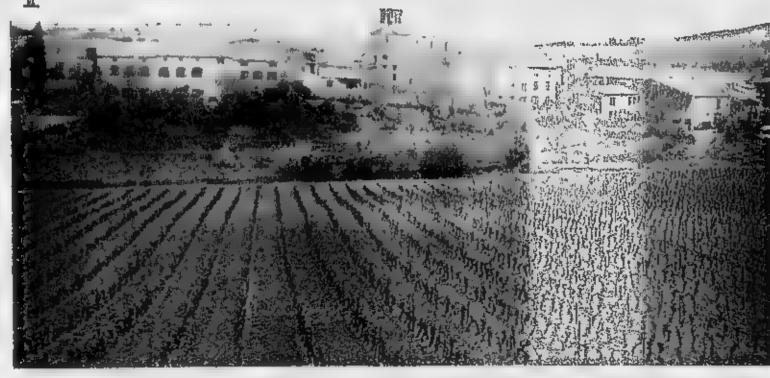
By the time we got to the BPDR headquarters in Paulitac in the Bordeaux region, my companions were sold on the high-sigh qualities of Baron'Arques wines. It was hard not to be convinced because flawless French meal after flawless French meal, we were served Baron'Arques red.

"Wine making is really quite a simple business—only the first 200 years are difficult," said Baroness Philippine de Rothschild in a video shown to visitors at the BPDR estate. Since taking over the wine empire upon her father Philippe's death, she has turned BPDR into a global headlinez And from what we saw at Baron'Arques, her vintners indeed had the art of winemaking down pat.

In a few weeks, bottles of the Baron'Arques Grand Cru red, perfect for gift-giving and the pleasurable feastings at Christmas time, will be arriving in the Philippines. Every bottle will bear a label that says the wine came from the barrel specially selected by Madame Glenda Barretto, by Madame Tita Meneses Trillo or by Monsieur Eugenia Lopez III.

BPDR and Baron'Arques wines are imported and distributed in the Philippines by Anthony's Wine Cel-

IN THE 1970s, the grape growers of Languedoc revived their winemaking glory by ripping out acres of vines and adjusting the mix of grape varieties to perfectly suit local conditions.





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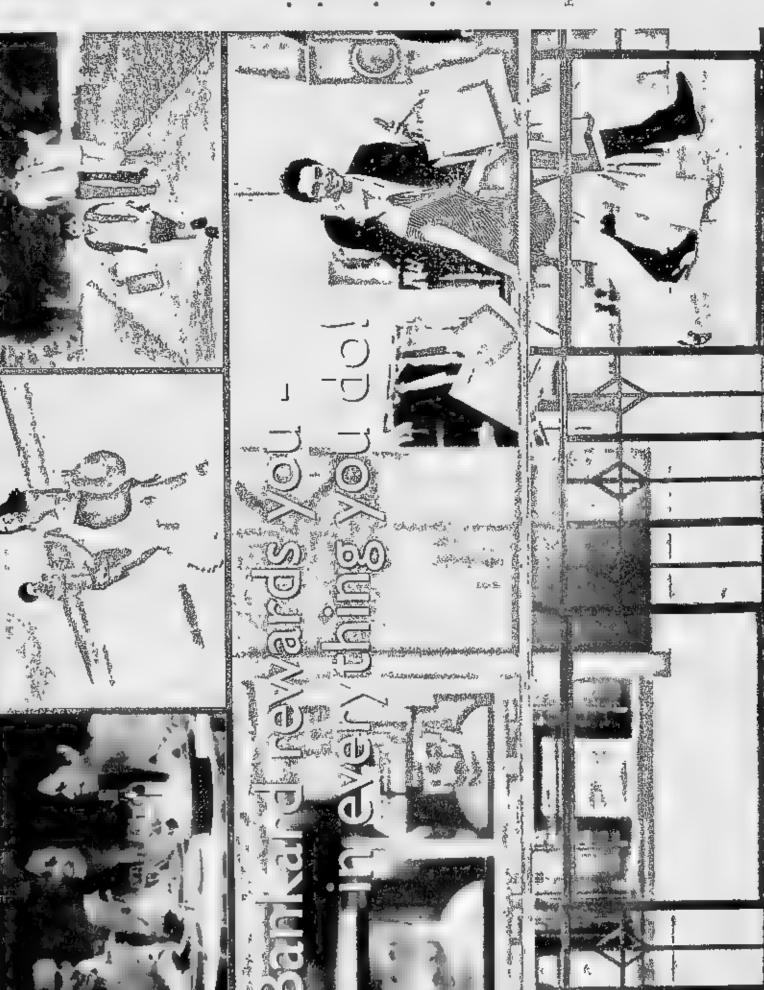
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Assistant Editor Emmie G. Velanda

Christian did wonderful job with my SOM says American composer

THINK he did an absolutely outside the Philippines. wonderful job," young Ameri-can songwriter Andrew Fromm said of Christian Bautista's rendition of "The Way You Look at Me."

Fromm, who wrote the melody for Bautista's phenomenal hit, expressed all-out support for the singer during the New York ieg of the Night of the Champions concert recently held at the Colden Theater.

"The melody came to me really late at night in my New Jersey home," the composer recalled. "I was upset at the time that I didn't have anyone in my life. So I imagined what ! would like to feel if I did have someone. "The title kind of emerged because I've always been in love with the way people who are tru-ly in love look into each other's eyes. Especially when they are getting married."

Fromm has written songs for other American and British recording artists, including the Backstreet Boys, NSync, Marc Anthony, Kci & JoJo, Westlife, and Gareth Gates. He has also produced songs for Celine Dion.

"The Way You Look at Me" is the carrier single of Bautista's debut album of the same title. The album recently made the double-platinum mark with 60,000 copies sold inside and



Reeve's final film remains in production

NEWARK, New Jersey—A computer-animated film that Christopher Reeve had been directing at the time of his death will remain in production, company officials said.

This was revealed as the late actor's publicist announced last week that the body of the "Superman" actor has been cremated. One newspaper reported that the actor's ashes would be scattered to the wind.

"The cremation has taken place," said publicist Wesley Combs, who declined to give any details regarding the time and location of the

Reeve died Sunday at Northern Westchester Hospital at Mount Kisco, New York, after suffering cardiac arrest and falling into a coma at his home.

"Yankee Irving," the working title of the animation movie, follows the story of a boy who overcomes personal obstacles to realize his

Reeve had spent many hours working on the project, said Rob Kurtz, who wrote the script for the animated feature. IDT Entertainment had set up two large computer screens in Reeve's home in Pound Ridge, New York, so the actor-director, who was paralyzed in a 1995 horse-riding accident, could monitor work that was being done in the company's studios in Newark, as well as in Canada and Israel.

Reeve, 52, died Sunday of complications from an infection caused by a bedsore.

The bulk of what he was doing as a director is fairly complete," Stephen Brown, chief financial officer of IDT, told The Star-Ledger of Newark for Tuesday's newspapers.

IDT said the film will arrive in theaters in

Company officials said they plan to keep Reeve's family involved as the remaining enimation and post-production work are com-

The New York Post reported Thursday that Reeve's widow, Dana, was planning to scatter the ashes herself.

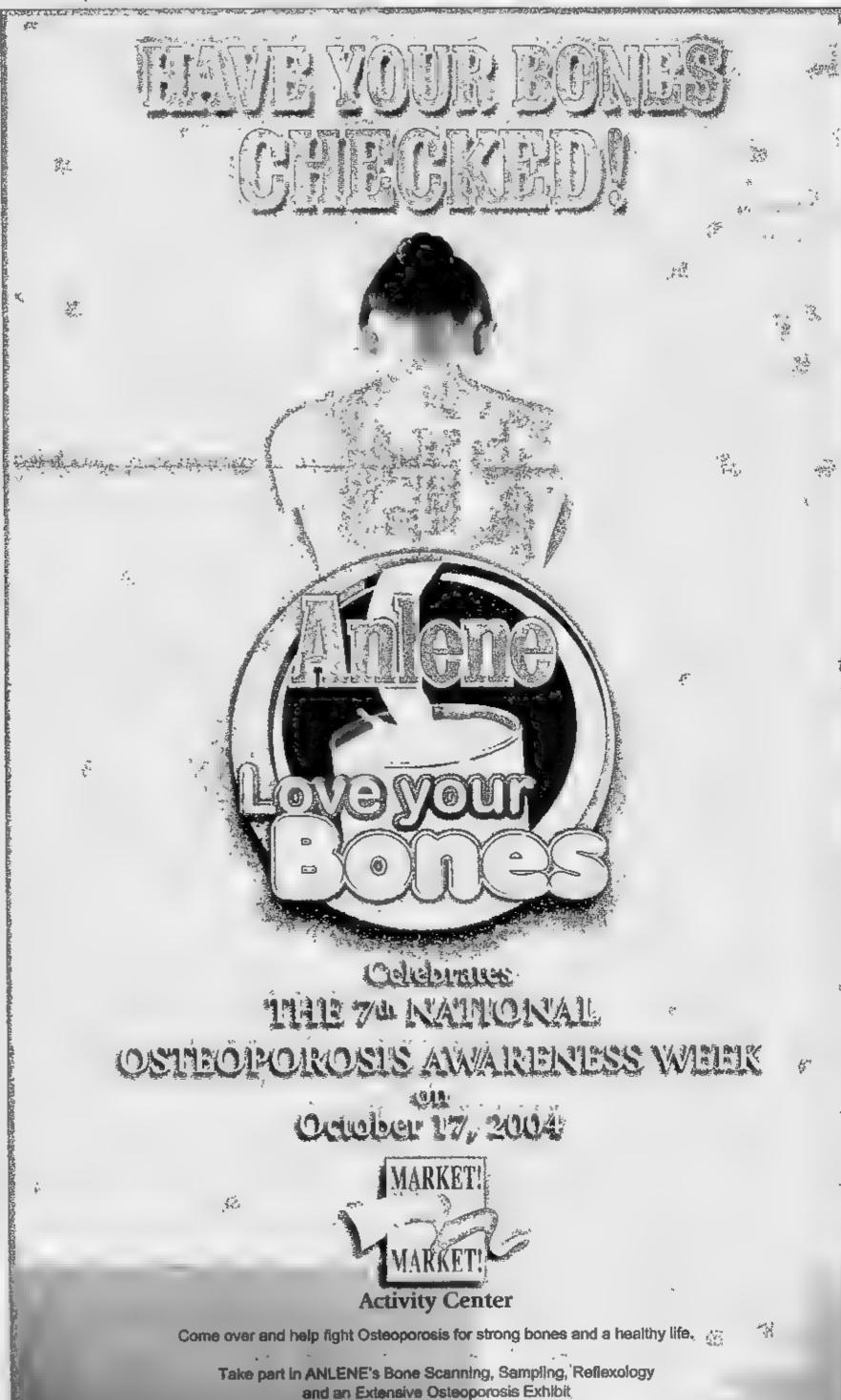
It also said Dana Reeve was planning a large commemorative event at the Jullhard performing arts school in Manhattan, which her husband had attended as a student. APP

Warner Music Indonesia reported early this week that the single just entered various local charts' Top 10 and Top 20 listings.

The singer is currently waxing a second alburn for Warner Music Philippines.

3 MEN & A SONG. Composer Andrew Fromm flanked by Christian Bautista (right) and singer/actor/manager





Hosted by Ali Sottol

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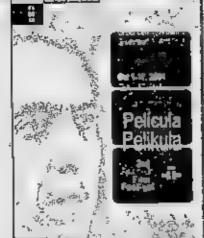
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SHOW STOPPER



TORO

Taiwan star sings Filipino songs

JUST when you think you've seen enough of Taiwan's young screen heartthrobs, here comes another one and he's a lot cuter, too.

Toro---who plays the lead character Ji Teng in the latest chinovela sensation from GMA, "Snow Angel"-just might be the next "crush ng bayan."

The latest find from Taiwan, Toro, 23, is expected to draw a big, predomnantly female following in the Philippines with his good looks and his talent for singing Not only does he sing well, but he sings in Tagalog, tool Finally, a Taiwanese singer we can understand.

Ex-Energy

The local release of the official "Snow Angei" soundtrack from Warner Music Philippines will carry Filipino versions of the two theme songs from the show, "Ikaw Pa Rin" and "May Mahal Ka ng Iba." Tore amazingly sings in Filipino without losing his distinct Chinese

A former member of the Taiwanese pop group Energy, Toro recently decided to go solo and to pour his heart out in soundtrack, this even if it means learning to sing in another language.

Manila visitor

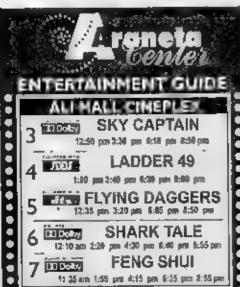
Toro and fellow "Snow Angel" stars Margaret Wong Yu Jie and Johnny Yan Zing Shu came to Manila for the "Snow Angel" promo tour. Yesterday, they had a live performance and an autograph-signing session at SM North Edsa.

The "Snow Angel" soundtrack is now available in CDs and cassettes at your favorite record bars from Warner Music Philippines.



KAREL FOR BOBSON'S

Karel Marquez, 17, is Bobson's latest addition to its list of celebrity endorsers, chosen because she, like the brand, is cool, wholesome and stylish. Karel is in Bobson's "Keep it Real" campaign this holiday season. Catch her as she and another Bobson's endorser, Japoy Lixardo, are launched at Ratsky Tomas Morato on Oct. 30.



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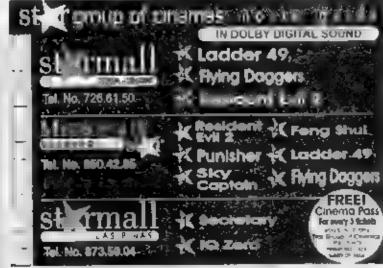
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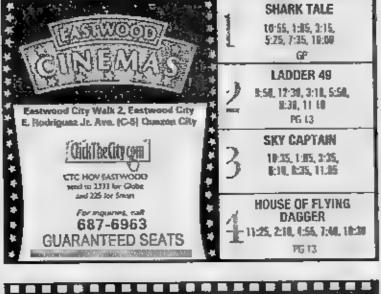
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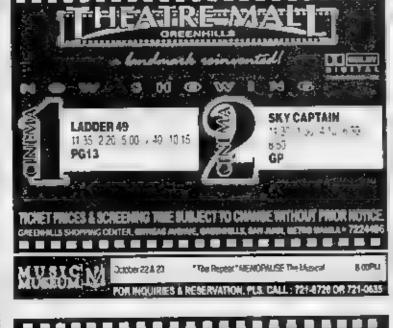
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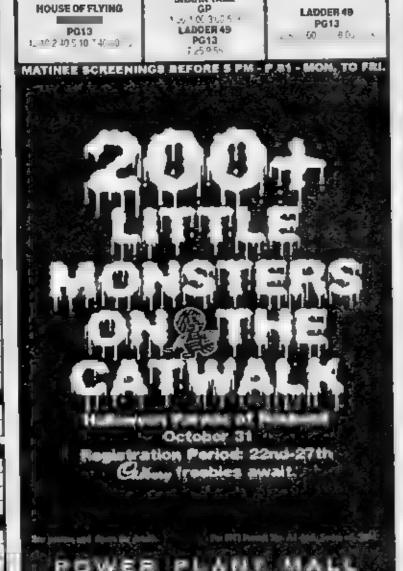


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By Ansel Beluso Contributor

THE GAWAD Kalinga "Bawa't Pilipino, Bayani" concert held last Oct. 2 at The Fort was a spectacle not only for the eyes but also for the heart

The concert grounds gave a glimpse of the heaven that Gawad Kalinga aims to build in now 230 sites nationwide. Spread all over the vast open space were 35 beautifully landscaped and colorfully painted GK homes that eloquently and emphati-SHOW cally expressed the GK 777 vision of building 700,000 houses for the poor TIME in seven thousand communities in seven years

The concert was spectacular, and not just because it had all the fabulous elements of a world-class production, complete with invisible harnesses and laser beams, confetti bombs and fireworks, a humongous stage and numerous video walls scattered all over the venue.

It wasn't just that Martin Nievera, Gary V. Kuh Ledesma, the Apo, Robert Seña, Isay Alvarez, Carla Martinez and Joel Torre gave their all.

It wasn't just that more than 100,000 people flocked to the concert venue that night despite the threat of rain.

It wasn't just that the Gawad Kalinga cocktails held an hour before the concert was graced by very important people---ed by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Vice President Noli de Castro, former President Cory Aquino, other high-ranking government officials, members of the diplomatic community and top business leaders

It was also because the show itself gave people a palpable sense that they weren't just watching a concert but witnessing the unfold ing of a magnificent miracle

The Gawad Kalinga "Bawat Pilipino, Bayani" concert marked the first anniversary of this multi-sectoral anti-poverty effort

spearheaded by Couples for Christ.

Hours before the show started, a stream of expectant people began to flow in. Many of them were not your ordinary concert-goers. Many had never before gone to a concert, and watching a major one like this was not even in their list of dreams

But come they did not just to watch a concert but to claim their rightful place as stakeholders and partners in the building of the nation. There they were-the scavengers

of Payatas and Smokey Mountain, the pedicab drivers and vendors of Bagong Silang, the construction boys and factory girls of Baseco, the daily wage earners of Kaing.n and Towerville.

That was one Gawad Kalinga miracle right there- making it possible for the so-called great unwashed to partake of a musical banquet that nourished the senses and the soul.

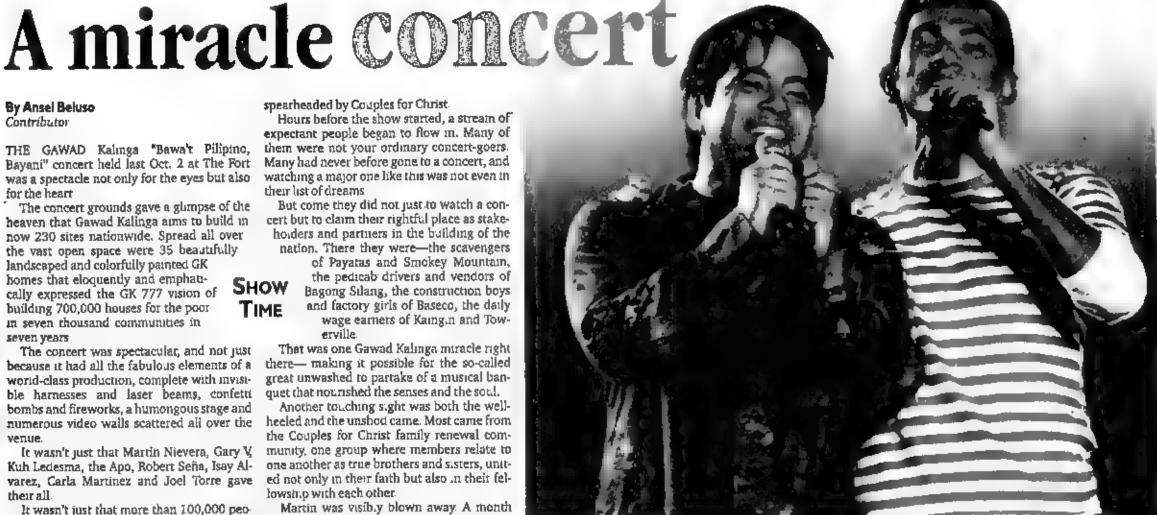
Another touching sight was both the wellheeled and the unshod came. Most came from the Couples for Christ family renewal community, one group where members relate to one another as true brothers and sisters, united not only in their faith but also in their fellowship with each other.

Martin was visibly blown away. A month before, when GK was being explained to him, the concert king was already excited to discover that there was this program dedicated to building homes and hopes for the Philip-

Liabilities to assets

"Simply amazing!" was the phrase Martin chose to describe the feeling. The pun was intentional, as he must surely have been referring not just to GK but also to SMART, the concert's major sponsor of which he is an image

"The Gawad Kalinga message is quite simple," the concert king continued. "Every Filipino has a hero inside and, for this country to rise again, we just need to bring out that hero.



"SIMPLY AMAZING" is how Martin Nievera (left) describes the work of Gawad Kalinga, while Gary V cails it mindboggting.

And when heroes gather and work together, miracles inevitably happen."

Gary was quick to agree. "Last year, I was quite lucky to have already been asked to be a partner of GK. This work boggled my mind, especially when I realized that the very excellent dancers who performed with me onstage in the concert that launched Gawad Kalunga were actually former juvenile delinquents, reformed drug users, akyat-bahay members, petty thieves.

"How GK has transformed those who used to be a menace to society into useful citizens is truly a miracle. From habilities, these young and talented people have become assets."

Directed by Maria Montelibano, the concert was also an opportunity for the likes of Martin and Gary to actively help and express their individual heroism.

The artists who performed in the concert did not receive professional fees. Instead, Gawad Kalinga homes will be built in their

Kuh, who also performed in the GK concert ast year, happily recounted her personal expenence. "I got to help build a GK house in Payatas Trese," she revealed "Something happened to me inside. I mean, we all talk about what we should do to help the poor Gawad Kaunga, for me, is the bridge that crosses from talking to doing. This is really God's work."

Hope and heroism

An extravagant opening number, supported by a video presentation, brought the audience to a dizzving roller-coaster ride through Philippine history Then, Couples for Christ's Frank Padilla delivered a report on the GK work, which contextualized the role of Gawad Kalinga in the task of rebuilding the

What followed were a series of musical vignettes that wove a tapestry of hope and heroism into the fabric of our life as a nation. The number showcasing the inspiring acts of generosity of GK heroes and champions was particularly heartwarming

One British millionaire sold his luxurious car to build more than 600 GK homes. A Filipino couple in the US sold their mansion and transferred to a much smaller home to donate

Another Filipino immigrant in the US gave several parcels of land in Batangas to built a



HOPEFUL. Gary V and kids in one of the musical vignettes of hope and heroism

GK village as a relocation site for informal settlers Former Customs chief Tony Bernardo revealed how he exhorted more than half of his people to embrace GK and how, since he left the agency, he has dedicated himself to the work.

A Filipino businessman confessed to having been money mad before but, since embracing GK, has committed himself to work for a better quality of life for the poor. And he is auctioning off his brand new BMW on Dec. 18 to build two GK communities

Ateneo students, alumni and faculty, under the leadership of Fr. Bienvenido Nebres, have built the Blue Eagle GK village in Payatas, Quezon City, transforming the former slum area into a vibrant and productive community. Just a stone's throw away, a mudshde once claimed hundreds of lives

Filling, fulfilling

The second half of the concert where Martin, Gary, Kuh and the other artists performed served as a fitting dessert to an already filling and fulfilling evening.

There are only six years left for GK to fulfill its promise. Tomorrow has already been claimed. A bright future awaits this country.

This much was clear from the GK miracle

'How GK has changed those who used to be a menace to society into useful citizens is truly a miracle'

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HUGH Jackman in the title role and Kate Beckinsale in "Van Helsing"

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icent medieval consition did in its desperate, last-ditch attempt to purge its world of ghouls, monand SHOW sters demons TIME

Deep in the mountains of Carpathia Les the mysterious and mythic la's bloodthirsty brides land of Transylvania, a world where evil is ever-present, where danger rises and monsters take form as the sun

Filmmaker Stephen Sommers blends the recognizable and the unimaginable into a vivid, epic backdrop for his tale of ultimate evil against a lone force of good: Van Hels-

In the movie, Van Helsing (Hugh Jackman) joins forces

IF THERE'S something "strange" with the featless Anna Valerious (Kate Beckinsale), who is on a crusade to rid her family of a generations-old curse by defeating the enigmatically powerful Count Dracula (R.chard Roxburgh)

"Van Helsing" also features Will Kemp as Velkan, Kevin

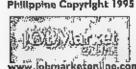
O'Connor as Iger, David Wenham as Friar Carl, and the seductive trio of Elena Anaya, Silvia Colloca and Josie Maran as Dracu-

The "Van Heising" video will be officially launched via a thematic pre-Halloween event in late October, Early buyers can get the chance to join the raffle promo and get the chance to win Van Helsing

action figurines. "Van Helsing" is now available on video from Universal Home Entertainment and is exclusively distributed in the Philippines by C-Interactive Dig.tal Enterta.nment.



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VSO BAHAGINAN

Global Xchange

young people active in the community

Globel Xchange in the Philippines is a partnership between three organizations, namely Braish Council, VSO Philippines and VSO Bahaginan. These organizations are equally committed to the idea that international Volunteer Exchanges can help develop active global citizens, who are committed to working for positive change and can positively impact local communities in the LIK and in the Philippines. Global Xchange Philippines is an exchange programme that brings young people from the UK and from Philippines to tive alongside each other and work together as volunteers so they can share their learning with their host

GLOBAL XCHANGE PROJECT is looking for a

PROJECT SUPERVISOR (JOB CODE: GXPS)

- To work with a counterpart UK Project Supervisor for lacificating the implementation of the 6-month programme in the UK and here in the Philippines. The Philippine Project Supervisor is expected to develop the programme in the Philippines host community.
- To live in or near the Philippine host community for the planning and preparation phase and during the three months of the Philippine part of the exchange. Hours will be irregular and the Project Supervisor will need to be evallable on call for perscipants and take a lead in providing support during the Philippine phase of

It is important for applicants to realize that this is a very demanding role — and definitely not a typical 8-5 job! KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Project development in the Philippine host community

- To develop key community contacts and support/resources needed for setting up the Philippine
- To identify, recruit and orient suitable work placements and host families.
- To develop the Philippine phase of the programme to railect the core components of the Global Xchange programme.

2. Supervise and support volunteers

- To work with the counterpart Project Supervisor to ensure adequate support and supervision of volunteers. To include supporting volunteers in relationships with: host families, counterpart pairs and work placement supervisors.
- To help all parties mantioned above to resolve problems as and when they arise.
- To be responsible for the health and salety of volunteers during the programme. To promote and encourage appropriate behaviour and implement disciplinary procedures il volunteers do not maintain agreed standards of behavloting

3. Facilitate Training and Learning

- To coordinate training courses at the start of the Philippine phase.
- To work in collaboration with the LIK Project Supervisor to facilitate the community orientation on arrival in the host community and to supervise Educational Activity Days, the Mid-Project Review and the debrief in both phases of the programme
- To help volunteers identify and develop personal objectives and facilitate individual learning throughout To promote learning amongst volunteers regarding global and cross-cultural issues.
- 4. Communication with the Project Management Committee/

Implementing Partner Organisation

- To keep the Project Management Committee regularly informed about the progress of Globel Xchange teams in the host communities, including any medical or health and safety lesues.
- To act as a representative of the Global Xchange Programmelimplementing Pertner at all times.
- To undertake any other duties associated with the position.

5. Budget management

6. Monitoring and evaluation

Person Specification

- A college degree experience in working with 17-25 year olds from a wide range of background
- proven stiftly to facilitate learning in a non-formal environment for this age group has direct and substantial experience in working cross-culturally
- able to communicate to a range of audiences & has strong written communication addits for writing reports, publicity materials
- knowledge of issues common to communities in the Philippines, preferably on Peace 8. Development
- significant experience in working in supervisory role hold a Philippine pessport possibly traveled overseas
- willing and able to live and work outside own community in the Philippines. able to work irregular hours including considerable weekend work.

This post is initially offered on a per project basis - initially for a year.

Closing date: 25 October 2004 Interview Date , 3 November 2004

Preference Starting date: November 16, 2004

Please submit a letter of intent with your comprehensive resume, and specify the Job Code to: Otrector at bahaginar @veoint.org Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.





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2. Flight Officer

(REF: HR/RE-PH/04Oct/001)

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- Fax through (02) 867-3194
- Deliver or mail it to: HRD Recruitment, 2nd floor Zueilig Pharma Building, Sen. Gll J. Puyat Ave., P.O. Box 2587, 1265, Makati City, Philippines

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- good command of the English language
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- good command of the English ranguage
- excellent health

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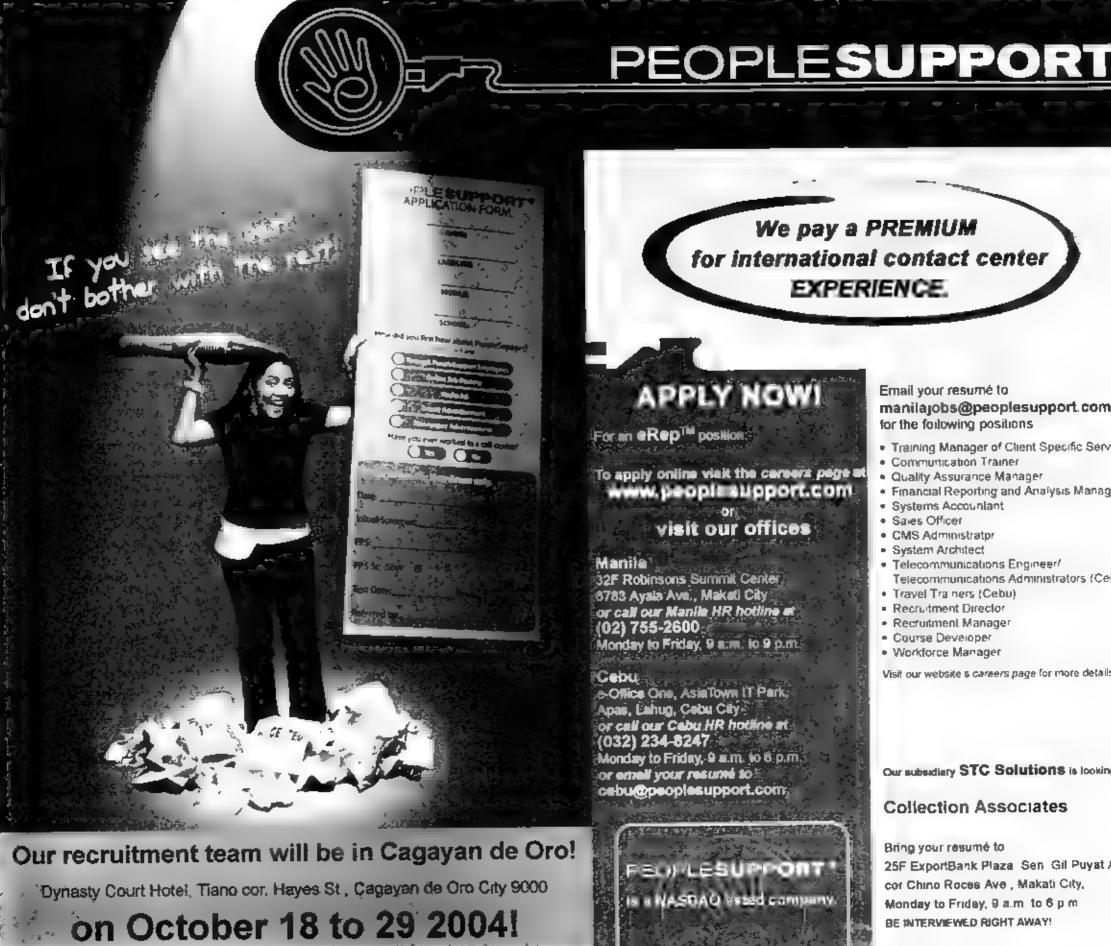
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- apparatus, consistency and prepriety of supporting decements for all clams, payments and other accounting transactions in complaince with accounting practices, established procedures and guidelines;
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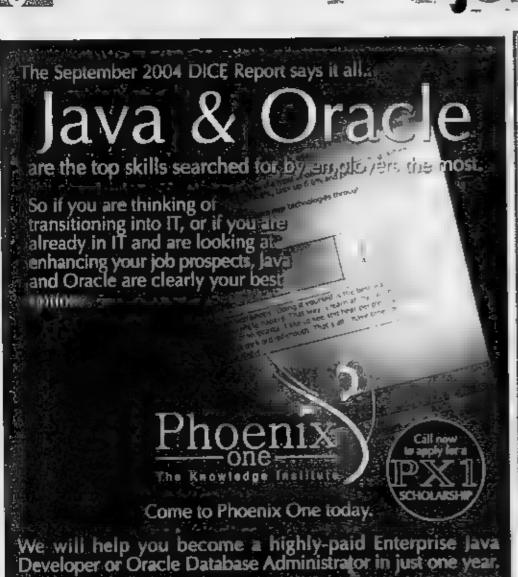
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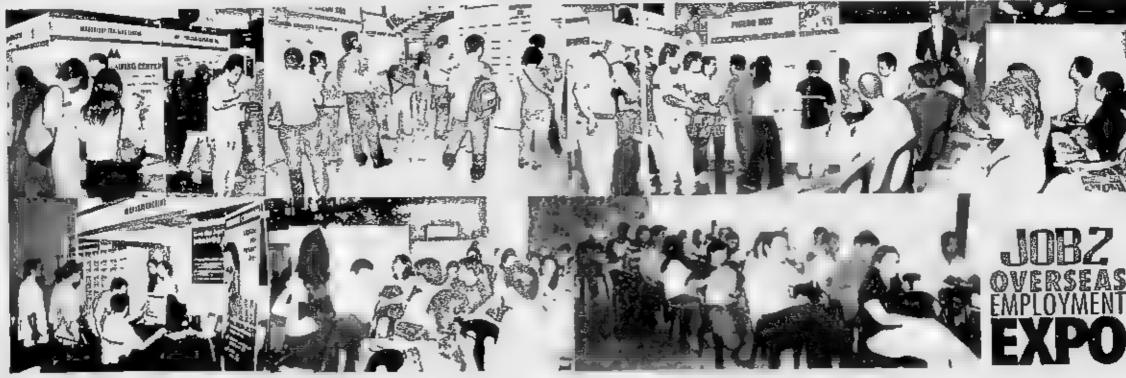












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Electro-Mechanical Engineers

Project Managers

Hydrotogists

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Road and Transport Sector:

- Project Managers Resident Engineers
- Senior Highway Engineers
- Bridge Engineers
- Materials Engineers
- Structural Engineers Foundation/Geotechnical Engineers
- GIS Specialists Transport Economist
- Airport Planners Port Planners
- Mechanicai Engineers
- Electrical Engineers Cost Engineers
- Transport Planners
- Troffic Engineers
- Geofechnical Engineers Geodatic Engineers

Agriculture and Social Sector:

- Project Managers Irrigation Engineers
- Agricultural Engineers Agricultural Economists
- Social Development/ Resettlement Specialists
- **Urban and Regional Planners** Architects
- Financial Analysts/Economists Project Benefit Monitoring &
- Evaluation Specialists > Legal Experts
- > Information and Education Campaign Specialists

Community Development Specialists

- Extension, Marketing and Training Specialists:
- Qualifications:
- Condidate must possess at least a Bachelor's Degree but preference would be on those with Master's Degree, Post Graduate Diploma and Doctoral Degrees;

Preferably ten (10) years professional experience in related fields;

- At least five (5) years experience in internationally funded-projects (e.g. ADB, EU, IBRD/ World Bonk, JICA, JBIC, ISDB)
- Assigned/handled international project assignments (é.g. Asia, Europe, Africa) Must be willing to travel and undertake multiple project assignments abroad Interested applicants must send detailed curriculum vitae, stating contact details (e-mails, mobile/phone numbers), qualifications, years of experience, complete employment history (project name, duration of project, duffes and responsibilities), languages, references and time

of availability for interview. All application should be sent to P.O. BOX #703, Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezan City, 1135 Philippines or e-mail at businessdevdept@yahoo.com



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- MARKETING ASST
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- must be manbeling prediction or related course and with at least 7 years expenses a to take and marketing

- personable, excellent in without and spoken facilish

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We are a leader in delivering high performance solid-state drive and storage management solutions to the military, industrial, enterprise and consumer markets worldwide. We seek highly qualified professionals to till in the following positions for our International Headquarters in Manile.

ASIC DESIGN ENGINEER

The ASIC Design Engineer shall contribute to the design architecture/specification for next generation storage networking products. He/she shall design and implement HTL from specifications; implement random, self checking verification testbenches using Vers; write automated DC and Primetime scripts using DCSH or TCL and analyze results.

BS ECE, EE, CoE. Graduate degrees are a definite advantage.

Must have 5 years experience using Vertiog and front-end ASIC Design.

Previous design experience in design or verillication of high performance packet-based

communication or storage networking systems. ASIC/FPGA project management experience is a plus

Must have excellent oral and written communication skills.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT ENGINEER

The Customer Support Engineer will interface with customers to provide pre- and post-sales technical support. The CSF shall act as the first level of technical interaction for the seles team. The CSE shall also document calls and monitor resolution status and assist in troubleshooting storage products, write user manuals, and other technical material. The CSE shall interface with the R&D, Sales and Marketing teams from international office and headquarters on a regular basis

- Bachelor's Degree in Engineering, Computer Science or equivalent combination of education and experience. Experience as a Technical Support Representative in a call center environment is a plus.
- General storage interface knowledge: SCSI drives, IDE and Fibre Channel Experience with Linux, UNIX and Windows operating systems, including Windows 98, NT, 2000
- and XP Must have strong communication and inter-personal sidils, high customer and quality orientation.
- Must be able to work with minimal supervision

Proficiency in MS Office and Adobe Acrobat and/or FremeMaker

Qualified candidates may send their comprehensive resumés to britech@pidtdsl.net Immediately. We regret that only short-listed candidates will be notified.

ICE CREAM DEALERS

We are a manufacturer of a very popular brand of ice cream. We are looking for dealers and distributors for certain sales territories or marketing zones in Metro Manila, provincial Luzon, and certain areas in Visayas and Mindanao. Dealerships can be extremely profitable for those who can get attractive locations and can give supervision of retail outlets in the sales territories. A dealer can make P6K (or more!) a month on a capital investment of P40K per outlet with a modest sales volume per month. To be selected, you have to apply for dealership(s) in the available sales territories of your choice by sending a letter of intent and a short resumé with 2x2 picture to email mikhailo268@yahoo.com or fax numbers 817-9665 or 848-1179, Address to: ICE CREAM MANUFACTURER.

Parties who are interested to the dealers must possess the following qualifications: (1) Relevant business experience in trading and distribution of consumer products. If no relevant business background, the dealer applicant must justify why he/she thinks is capable of handling an area dealershie.g. familiarity of locality or existing contracts with popular retails outlets in the area; (2) Initial capital of P20K-P40K per retail outlet for acquisition of freezer(s); (3)-Favorable character references and bank checkings; and (4) In areas outside of Metro Manila, access to but not ownership of cold storage facility may be necessary. If you are interested and belive you can meet our requirements, send your Letter of Intent now with the required information and specific market areas of interest (except major mails as they are already taken). We will respond to you if the territories are still available and we believe that you have the qualifications to meet our dealership criteria.

OFF-SHILLE ADD Q.C. INSPECTOR

- >- Preferably Effipino/Chinese Male or Female between 25-35 years old
- >- Must be fluent in Mandarin & English
- > At least 2 years experience in Garment Industry
- > Has an existing passport Please sand resumé via fax or email at:

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Rustan Marketing Corporation

is in urgent need of top caliber individuals.

GROUP PRODUCT MANAGER

- Female, between 30-40 years old
- Degree in Business, preferably Marketing or Economics, an MBA degree or units is an advantage Minimum of three (3) years solid experience in brand management and development of consumer
- products in a managerial capacity.
- Must possess strong leadership qualities Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate

SALES MANAGER FOR HOME CARE

- Preferably female; between 26-35 years old
- Graduate of a four-year business related course
- Minimum of three (3) years managerial experience in a direct/retail selling environment
- Preferably with experience in distributing consumer products
- Creative and with excellent communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing, aggressive and dynamic personality, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate
- Willing to travel

BRAND MANAGEN

- Female; between 26-35 years old
- Degree in Business, preferably Marketing or Economics
- Minimum of two (2) years experience in product management and development of consumer products in a managerial capacity.
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO SEND OR E-MAIL IMMEDIATELY THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AND A RECENT 2X2 PHOTO TO

> Rustan Marketing Corporation HRMD c/o Executive Administration Ground Floor Midland Buendia Blog. 403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City E-mail address: embaysa@rgoc.com.ph

(We will reply to qualified applicants only)

nacing the second



Save the Children.

Save the Children Federation, Inc. is a US-based non-profit organization working in over forty countries, including the United States, and serving more than 15 million children and their families, implementing community development projects that create lasting, positive change in the lives of disadvantaged children and adolescents. Save the Children is currently searching for qualified candidates for the following vacancies in the ASCEND Mindanao Project.

ASCEND Mindanao (Assistance for the Comprehensive Educational Development of Mindanao) is a two-year USAIDfunded project that seeks to increase access to quality basic and non-formal education among children and youth in school-less and conflict-affected areas of Mindanao

EDUCATION COORDINATORS

Sulu, Maguindanao, North Cotabato, Zamboanga del Sur

Duties & Responsibilities

Reporting to the Project Director, shall oversee, coordinate or facilitate, the implementation of plans, programs, strategies, or activities; lead in community mobilization efforts; lead in the delivery of capacity building activities; assist in the delivery of technical assistance, curriculum strangthening and teacher training to partner public schools or madaris; lead in awareness raising, networking and advocacy initiatives at the local government level; lead in monitoring of and reporting on project deliverables and the impact of project assistance; work closely with the Department of Education and the Mindanao Business Council and coordinate with other NGOs or government agencies supporting related programs.

Qualification Requirements

- degree in social science, education or community development
- knowledge of the area of operation
- experience in implementing basic education projects related to madrasah education, public elementary education improvement, teacher training, and/or non-formal education, accreditation & equivalency implementation.
- skills in advocacy, networking, capacity building, community organizing and mobilization
- experience in worlding with the public school system, Muslim communities and religious leaders, LGUs, divil
- society groups and the academe; computer literacy (MS Office software)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCE OFFICER Cotabato City

Duties and Responsibilities

Reporting to the Project Director and the Finance Manager, shall be responsible for the administrative and financial functions of the project and ensure that they are efficiently implemented in accordance with prescribed policies and procedures; conduct periodic financial monitoring of grant releases and ensure that all financial requirements are complied with by sub-grant partners,

Qualification Requirements

accounting graduate, preferably a CPA and/or with supervisory experience

· computer literate, proficient in Excel

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCE ASSISTANT Cotabato City

Duties and Responsibilities

Reporting to the Administrative and Finance Officer, shall assist in all administrative and financial functions of the project.

Qualification Requirements

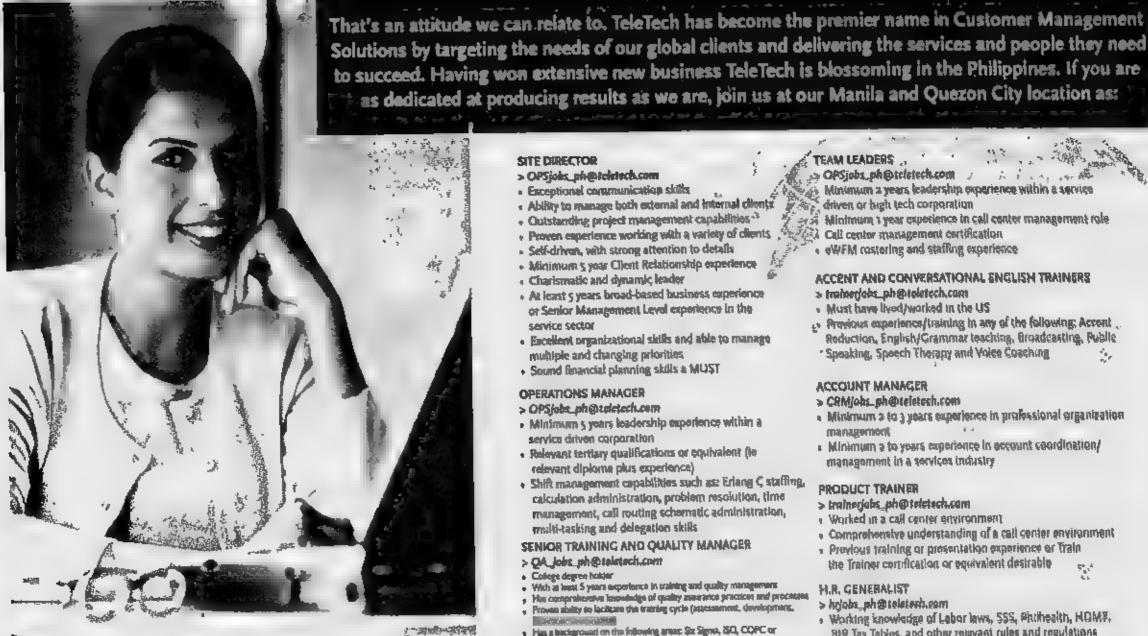
- accounting graduate
- computer iterate, proficient in Excel

Attractive compensation and benefits package awaits the successful applicants, interested parties may submit their resumes on or before October 26, 2004 for *Thru mail* - Save the Children Federation, Inc., No.1 Encamacion Street corner Lapu-Lapu Avenue, Magallanes Village, Mattali City, Metro Marsia. *Thru* fax: (832) 853-02-15, *Thru* e-mail: ellaneza@savechiktren.org Pieese indicate code in subject line: "EUCOORO-ASCEND" for Education Coordinators, "AFO-ASCEND" for Administrative & Finance Assistant.

Save the Children is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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SITE DIRECTOR

- > OPSjobs_ph@teletech.com
- Exceptional communication skills
- Ability to manage both external and internal clients.
- Outstanding project management capabilities.³
- Proven experience working with a variety of clients , Call center management certification
- Self-driven, with strong attention to details
- Minimum 5 year Client Relationship experience Charismatic and dynamic leader
- At least 5 years broad-based business experience or Senior Management Level experience in the
- Excellent organizational skills and able to manage multiple and changing priorities.
- Sound financial planning skills a MUST

OPERATIONS MANAGER

- > OPSjobs_ph@tpletech.com
- Minimum 5 years leadership experience within a service driven corporation
- Releyant tertiary qualifications or equivalent (to relevant diploma plus experience)
- Shift management capabilities such as: Erlang C staffing. calculation administration, problem resolution, time management, call routing schematic administration. multi-tasking and delegation skills

SENIOR TRAINING AND QUALITY MANAGER

- > QA_lobs_ph@teletech.com
- College degree holder
 With at least 5 years experience in training and quality management Has comprehensive instantings of quality assertance practices and processes.
- Proven ability to lacitate the training cycle (assessment), development.
- Hinteriors 3 years experience in a customer service environment, preferably
- Can work well with others at all levels of the organization and represent the company is a professional craness
- . Able to work in a 14x7 call center

- OPSjobs, ph@teletech.com /
- Minimum z years leadership experience within a service
- driven or high tech corporation

 Minimum 1 year experience in call center management role

 - · WFM costering and staffing experience

ACCENT AND CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH TRAINERS

- > trainerfebs_ph@teletech.com
- . Must have lived/worked in the US
- Le Provious experience/training in any of the following: Accent . Reduction, English/Grammar teaching, Broadcasting, Public
- * Speaking, Speech Therapy and Voice Coaching

ACCOUNT MANAGER

- > CRMjobs_ph@teletech.com
- Minimum a to 3 years experience in professional organization
- Minimum a to years experience in account coordination/ management in a services industry

PRODUCT TRAINER

- > trainerjals_ph@teletech.com
- · Worked in a call center environment
- Comprehensive understanding of a call center environment
- · Provious training or presentation experience or Train the Trainer cortribration or equivalent desirable

H.R. GENERALIST

- > hejoba_ph@teletech.com
- Working knowledge of Labor laws, SSS, Phthealth, NGMF. BIR Tax Tables, and other relevant rules and regulations
- · Preferably with a degree or masters in HR or equivalent



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- per annum
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Male

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Who will haddle our new products

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- (Taglish) conversational skills
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- 18 to 27 years old, with outgoing personality Willing to work shifts (night/day
- or weekend)
- Basic computer knowledge Internet savvy

- With salary of P91,000 P200,000 per annum
- Must be an accounting graduate and must have at least one year experience in the same field
- Female, 21 to 27 years old, must be a self-starter
- Basic computer knowledge
- Knowledge in Quicken or
- Quickbooks an advantage
- Must have strong organizational

skills with emphasis on accuracy FLI APPLY PERICHALLY FROM 9P NOT SPIM AT

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Due to the organity of our requirement qualities applicants were advised to head carry their resume at:

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- Highly presentable and with pleasing personality

Accountants

- Must have at least 2 years work experience
- Knowledgeable of any accounting software
- Male or female between 23 to 28 years old
- Able to do training and willing to travel College graduate with a degree in accounting

Web Developers / Designers

- Must be highly skilled in C#, ADO.Net & ASP,Net Must have 2 years of work experience
- Male or female between 22 to 28 years old
- Knowledgeable in Photoshop, Fireworks or Dreamweaver

These are urgent requirements. Interested candidates should send their resumes to:

College graduate of any IT related course

Email add: hrd@bizboxms.com or Office add: 9631 Kamagong St., Makati City Tel. No : 899,3959

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- Basic knowledge in Local and informational Architectural and Building Stan-
- Proliciency in AutoCAD and Architectural Desidop is a must (new graduates of CAD schools may be entertained but must take proficiency tests). Knowledge of Adobe Photoshop and Bustrator, and other randering programs.

Interested applicants may personally report from 11am to 4pm, Mondays to Fridays with resume and 2 x 2 ID picture to.

Senior Partner — Finance and Admin SIF One Marian Cense, 106 Esteban St., Legespi Villege, Makell City T (632) 750-5208

us at: www.jobmarketealine.

Preferably with cales experience

but not recovery Hardworking, self-motivated and



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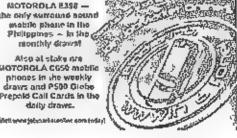


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CRS is in need of highly qualified individuals for contractual positions for its Agriculture and Natural Resource Management (Agri/NRM) Program. CRS is an equal opportunity employer.

The persons we are looking for are to be based in Mindanao and should have experience in participatory community development and expertise in one of the following areas: Agronomy, Forestry, Agroforestry, Animal Husbandry, Aquaculture, Gender, Land-Use Planning, Agricultural Engineering, or other related fields. They should also have experience and ability in training, extension, and implementing field-level agricultural development programs. Emphasis on community organizing and project proposal development is preferred. Willing and able to travel extensively in remote areas in Mindanao and relate with Catholic and Muslim religious leaders, indigenous people leaders, government officials, people's organizations, and NGO leaders. Proficiency in MS Word and Excel a must.

AGRICULTURE PROJECT COORDINATORS (5)

- Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture, Agroforestry, or related field and experience in Sustainable Agriculture.
- At least five years experience working with NGOs, the Church, or government agencies in planning or implementation of rural development
- Background in upland agriculture or natural resource development in Mindanao.

MARKETING PROJECT COORDINATORS (3)

- Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics, Marketing, Business related courses, or related field and experience in agricultural trading and
- At least five years experience working with NGOs, the Church, or government agencies in planning or implementation of rural development projects
- Background in agriculture cooperative movements in Mindanao.

INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEERS (2)

- Graduate of a related Engineering course. Background in actual design and construction of agricultural infrastructure projects.
- At least five years experience working with NGOs, the Church, or government . agencies in planning or implementation of rural development projects.

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FACILITATOR

- Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry, Agroforestry or related field and experiences in community based natural resource management program and
- At least five years experience working with NGOs, the Church, or government agencies in planning or implementation of rural development projects.
- Background in Social Forestry, Community-Based Forest Management in Mindanao and with some background in watershed "catchment" management.

FINANCE ASSISTANT

- Degree in Accounting, Business Administration, or allied courses. CPA a plus. Proficient in bookkeeping and financial accounting.
- At least two years of related work experience. Proficiency in computer skills, including MS Word, Power Point, and Excel.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

- Degree in Management, Accounting, Communications, or allied courses. Proficient in all aspects of secretarial and administrative functions.
- At least two years of related work experience. Proficiency in MS Word, Power Point, and Excel.

Interested individuals must submit an application letter, comprehensive resume with personal references via email or postal system to:

crsmro@crs-mindanao.org.ph

CRS Agri/NRM Program No. 2 North Street, DBP Village, Ma-a, 8000 Davao City

Screening of applications to start on October 22, 2004. Deadline for applications is October 31, 2004.

(Only short listed candidates will be notified)

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Look for Ysabel (09202467073) / Vicky (0917 8545127)

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Industrial Stainless Steel Fabrication

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1. Executive Secretary fluent in English

Pedicure Lady)

4. Qualified Nurses

Personality

Reflexology and Massager

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Mechanical Draftsman 4. Industrial Kitchen Designer

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Please confirm your schedule to our Business Partners: Brendon Galiardo 0917-7499447 / Jay Bejuco 09279645771

Biodiversity Analysis, Synthesis & Monitoring Analysis Leader

This position is at a tenior level and others an exching opportunity to make an impact on report professing consentation. The need to this position has ordered as a result of the recont change in structure of the CHPhilippines program. One of the units created under this new structure is the Bindsversey Analysis. Synthesis & Maragoning Unit and at leader who will be in charge of managing and concretating staff and at activities on the study entarget who will be incharged and enderms species in the Proporties. The results of this analysis of represent the quantitative species, sites and coindor conservation automess that will be the basis for the all future CI Philippine's conservation investments. The unit will also be responsible to building the groundwork for a systematic approach or monitoring that will permit the dependence of conservation results. This will tachtate development of a comprehensive assertionally reported system for indiplanting conservation success that will build done first and improve on the ground conservation action.

Responsib/Riles: ponation (Set Orector Reports to CBC Orector Support the CBC Orector, Confdor Program Managers, and pariners in dearly defining three scales of strategic outcomes "Exerctions Avaided" Ages Protected and "Composi-Created" for the Philippine CBC, by ensuring appropriate analysis to relied and connorspecies, see and corretor buscomes

spaces, are and correlar buscomes. Supervise the computation of the fulfill Red List of Threatened Species for Philipplina vanetrates and selected sweetstrate and pasts groups at global and national linear, in order to retretive Eulercom Avaided outcomes. Support the creation of a united hissanial Red List Authority under the segs of the Philipplina Red List Authority under the segs of the Philipplina.

Protected Areas and Virichle Bureou and the Philippine Hallonal Museum that will provide an intellumental platform and basis to deliver and monitor Philippine CBC outcome Coordinate the clarifying and implementation of projects audiensing the conservation of salected (Presidence) specials

selected Prosilened specials.

Develop and englement partnership internationals with key research and developme frequence bashop and englement partnership international frequence between the following Field Museum of Natural Heating, Smithsonian Institution, Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology and Herbania, Netronal Heatination of Comparative tributions. IIP MSI Scripps Insulute of Oceanography MDAA), species-specific conservation programs (e.g. Tamairia & Conservation Program Parelana Conservation Program Eagle Foundations. Principles Region Conservation Program Program and botarical gardens, set, which aim to strengther partent specimentation frogram Jordania Conservation and botarical gardens, set, which aim to strengther partent specimentation frogram program and botarical developmentation of destructional recipion as the program of the progra cate in these are descent and plant groups, in order to better Meas Protected buttomes and hence integrate a reprospondance database to base luture protety analysis of important bodoversaly Assas, new Protected Areas and Corndors. Supervise too problets for identifying crebbil showindge gaps and catelyze targeted SAP.

Assist with the creation of new allernoes, in renoral and intercoloured levels, and coordinate their accounts and, as necessary, support with the Philippine CBC, including agreements with Harbori, WWF, UP System, ASEAN organizations, etc., for highway that sharing

and dissemination.

Assist in the construction of a participative parents to develop the recessary projects and budgets for the three of swarego outcomes in order to support the fundamining proofest efficiently statistic participations of the property of the support of the su

Training and experience in conservation budgly, while presegonesi moder instruction

Expensives in developing species-based conservation strainguis and through orders of the IUCN Red Let orsers and process. of the RECN Red Let cheeks and probest Experience in conducting ecological assessments, and finish meaning Working experience of the conservation contact in the Philippines, as well as the socioeconomic contact as it relates to conservation and policy. Commonstrated spathy is land, direct and manage teams as well as to motivate and mention

Abley to partern well under groomer and to read cherthron. Fire upway Acopychistis Housing acres of Burnos Independed applicable may be hard then another. inclumphoses may submit their application with comprehensive in not later man 24 October 2004 to

The Country Executive Director Conservation International Propings #5 South Lawre Phylam Homes, Courton Cop. 1984 or east sespinary conservation pro

(No plane and, Only Stose short-lated will be reliable)

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CUSTOMER ENGINEER DANS OF MECH TECH COURSE SALES ENGENEERS BEAR OF COMPUTER ENGIN

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- H. LIAISON/MARKETING PERSONNEL (FEMALE):
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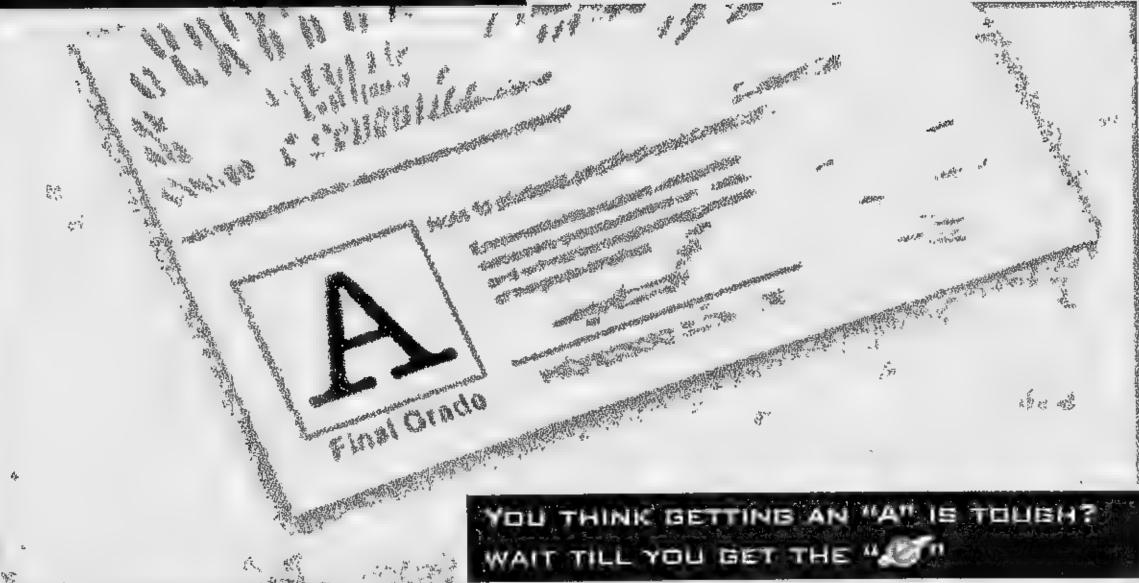
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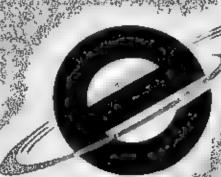
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Bring your resumé and picture for an interview from October 18-22, 2004, 9:00 AM - 12:00 NN at Suite 1101 Antel Global Corporate Center, #3 Doña Julia Vargas Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

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The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

MARKETING INFORMATION OFFICER

Qualifications:

- Graduate of 4 year Business course, Management Information Systems or any relevant course
- 2 years marketing experience
- Knowledge in market research, product price, distribution and promotions strategies and its implementation
- Creative Writing Sidis, Ability to analyze the market and ability to organize, leadership skills, Interaction Management Skills & computer skills
- Familiar with database management systems Has experience in developing wireless promotions.

Responsibilities:

Responsible for the administration of the encoding and compiling of database derived from various mediums for brand use. Also responsible for managing and developing the wheless and text promotion for brands in order to assist in achieving sales targets.

PERSONNEL ASSISTANT

Qualifications:

- Graduate of Psychology or Behavioral Science Preferably male, at least 2 years experience in recruitment and selection
- Familiar with psychological tests
- Knows how to use office software Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Analytical Skills, Report Writing Skills

To provide recruitment, selection and employment services and maintain an HR Information system.

SALES OFFICER - ADVERTISING

Qualifications:

- Graduate of Marketing course
- 3 years Marketing experience
- Leadership skills, Sales Management, Ability to analyze the market, Ability to maintain good client relationship, Negotiation skills, Interpersonal skills and Communication skills
- Familiar with the sales and marketing of the newspaper Advertising industry

Responsibilities:

Management of the Advertising Sales team, handling the broadsheet niche products and Ing TV with the objective of increasing in market share and sales revenues.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE — ADVERTISING

- College graduate preferably Marketing or any Business course
- Knowledge in basic computer operations
- Interpersonal skills, Report Writing skills, Presentation skills, Filing skills, Communication

Responsible for establishing and maintaining relationships with clients and ed agencies with the end view of soliciting ad placement to meet overall sales quota

AUDIT ASSISTANT

Qualifications:

- Accounting graduate, preferably Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- At least 2 years experience in auditing
- Preferably from reputable auditing firms
- Knowledge of General Accounting & Auditing Principles & Procedures
 Knowledge of Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing
- Knowledge of Financial Data analysis, Taxation & Labor Laws
- Analytical skills, Team player, can promote & implement appropriate process Improvements
- Knowledge of auditing systems in newspaper industry

- Perform audit procedures, organize working papers, prepare and communicate reports based on results of audit examinations.
- Assisting in identifying risk, evaluating controls and preparing audit plans/programs.

Send your application letter and comprehensive resumé or e-mail to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD

Philippine Daily Inquirer Ohino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo) Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph



A forward-looking and dynamic group of companies in Advertising, Publishing, & Food and Beverages distribution seeks cureer-oriented and enterprising individuals for the following positions:

Account > Managers

- Male or Female, 21 to 35 years old Business Management, Marketing or
- any Business related course • 1 - 2 years experience preferred, but
- not necessary
- Must be proficient in MS Office and can communicate well in English &
- Tagalog, both written & oral Must be creative and a self-starter
- Posses strategic thinking skills
- Have strong phanning & implementation abilities.

Interested applicants must submit their remmes and photo to: The Human Resources Department Unit 2614, 2614 Medjeal Plaza, San Aliguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Paug City, Tel; 687-0310 or e-mall: adrellexanti@yahoo.com

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Committee/do it all to asset in Marketing, Sales, Adventions, Promotions, public relations, research, copylerative venting, etc. with minimum supervision. Must be a natural hyperactive human between 988 to 336 full regions, talke than 66 inches with 2 to 3 yes, weeking expenience in a Marketing environment. Must love the good life. A real go-getter when it comes to work. In 7 smple worth, JACK OF ALL TRADES, MASTER OF SOME

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Must have strong communication & interpersonal stalls & desire to throw in a fast-paced environment. Can render decrease when precisiony. Directly reporting to the President. Single female & a graduate from an exclusive school. Must be at feast 5'5", between 25-30 years old with a fantable personality. Detail-oriented, self-states. Can organise a heavy workload with constantly changing priorities eder heavy deadlines. Free to served here and abroad & willing to work long hours

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- With good commend of the English language
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- College graduate Proticient to Graphic Software: Adoba Photoshop, Musirator & Corel Draw
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All interested Parties must bring a copy of their resume and credentials and attend our FREE OR ENTATION Rm 202 SEVEN EAST CAPITOL BLDG East Capitol Dr. Bo. Kapitolyo, Pasig Every MON - WED & FRI 2:00 PM-Care Providers 6:00 PM-Teachers

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Female, 24 to 32 yrs; with work experience;

Computer literate, esp. internet Willing to work night shift 6:30 p.m. to

Graduate of Business course; knowledge in

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Sr. Account Management Specialists/ **Account Management Specialists**

- Bachelor's degree in Marketing or equivalent
- With at least 2-3 years work experience in customer service 18
- Experience in Sales an advantage
- Possess good negotiation skills
- Analytical skills required and keen attention to details
- Willing to work long hours
- Must be PC literate
- Should be Filipino citizen; height must be 5'3 for female and 5'6 for male

Dealer Sales Account Managers

- Graduate of a 4-year degree course
- Must have experience in fast moving consumer goods industry
- Must have 2-3 years experience in sales & distribution
- Must have a driver's license
- Must be computer literate
- Pleasing personality
- Willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines

Customer Service Assistants/ Associates

- Graduate of any 4-year business related course
- At least 1 year work experience in the related field
- Good communication skills
- Willing to work on shifting schedules
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply
- Must be PC literate
- Should be Filipino citizen; height must be 5'3 for female and 5'6 for male.

Cashiers

- Bachelor's degree in Accountancy, Banking, Finance, Commerce or equivalent
- With at least 2 years work experience in the field of cashiering and/or tellering
- Must be customer service-oriented
- Willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines
- Must be PC literate
- Should be Filipino citizen; height must be 5'3 for female and 5'6 for mate.

Qualified applicants who meet the above requirements may apply personally. Kindly bring your resume, 2x2 picture, photocopy of transcript of records to:

> Staffing Operations Department 3F GLOBE Telecom Plaza I Mandaluyong City

Applicants residing in North & South Luzon are encouraged also to apply.

First 100 applicants will be accommodated on October 18 from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon; the next 100 applicants will be accommodated on October 18 from 1:00 pm to 5.00 pm and so on and so forth.

Henkel

Henkel is a world leader with brands and advanced technologies that operates in three strategic business areas - Home Care, Personal Care and Technologies.

The Hankel Technologies Group is one of the leading suppliers of adhesives, sealants and surface treatments for Industrial customers. It serves the automotive, electronics, serospace, metal industries, assembly, maintenance and repair, consumer goods and packaging industries. Strong grands, such as Loctite, Teroson, P3, Hysol, Multicore and Liofol are key drivers behind its success.

More than 50,000 employees work for the Henkel Group worldwide. People in 125 countries around the world trust in brands and technologies from Hankel.

Position available:

The Technologies group of Henkel is in need of a highly qualified individual to fill the position of a

Marketing Assistant

The position involves creating and designing brochures and advertisements; sourcing premiums and give-aways; research and analysis of industry information; managing of customer databases; organizing events such as exhibits and seminars; website management & content copywriting

As a global player, Henkel provides substantial training and development opportunities and offers an attractive satary and benefits package

Qualifications:

- Graduate of Marketing or related Business course
- At least 2 years marketing experience Excellent proficiency in English, both writting and oral
- Experience in Graphic software such as Macromedia Freehand, Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator & Pagemaker Knowledge in CoreIDRAW and Autocad is an advantage.
- Experience in copy/creative writing, tayout design Some background in creating research and data analysis
- Flexible to adapt to changing priorities in a last-paced environment
- Familiar with the Industrial Marketing setting or at least willing to learn.
- Knowledge in Powerpoint, Word & Excel is a must Creative, a teamplayer, determined and highly organized

Applicants may submit their resumé with a recent 2x2 photo not later than October 22, 2004 to address below

Human Resources Dept. Henkel Philippines, Inc.

3/F Alabang Business Tower, 1216 Acadia Avenue, Madrigal Business Park, Alabang Muntinlupa City Email: belcv.cruz@henkel.com

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- Solid background and with minknum of 2 years working experience
- Candidate with technical background in the PCH production line and
- PCBA SMT line is preferred Result oriented and fulfills technical assistance to our clients Must be 28 years old & below
- Mature, dedicated, responsible & independent Able to communicate effectively
- Willing to travel and with good interpersonal skill

1 ACCOUNTANT

- Graduate of BSC/BSBA Accountancy
- CPA preferred.
- Minimum 3 years experience in Bookeeping & General Accounting
 Must be knowledgeable in government reports and requirements,
- such as Tax reporting, Business Permit processing

 Possess good communication skill, high analytical ability & result oriented
- Able to work independently
 Computer literacy is a must requirements for the position

Good salary & benefits awaits to the selected candidates. Interested parties, please send the resume with recent photo by post

> The Administration Dept. Units SA & SB 5th Floor MAPRE Asian Corporate Center Madrigal Business Park Ayata-Alabang, Muntinkupa City E-mail: comphil@cnl.net

Only shortlisted candidates will be notify

URGENT JOB OPENING

Reservations and Ticketing Agent

Location: Makati City

Qualifications

- 3+ years work experience in a travel agency as a
- reservations and/or ticketing agent.
- Comprehensive knowledge of the Galileo and Abacus computer reservations system for reservations, fares and Must be able to issue travel documents such as hotel/tour
- vouchers, MPD, manual and automated plane tickets for both demestic and international destinations. Must be hard-working, trustworthy, proficient in English and Filipino and must have a pleasing personality.

Interested parties may forward their resume with picture to Idumiao @ pworld.net.ph

visit as at www palamentalembac, on-

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of this ad and valid ID from Monday-Wednesday (October 18, 19 & 20, 2004) from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. present another ID to gain entrance in the building.



A progressive construction company, is urgently in need of:

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Male, 26 to 35 years old, at least 5 years from building gained experience construction, computer proficient, license an advantage.

interested parties may send or personally submit their resume and other pertinent emdentale to Personnel & General Affairs Department, 2802 Antel Global Corp. Ctr. J. Varges Ave. Ortiges Center, Pasig City

Why some people always succeed at work

By Kevin Donlin

SOME people always seem to get faster promotions, make more money and generally stand out on the job, in any economy.

Why is that?

While there's no one thing that will guarantee career success for everyone, there are three things you can start doing today to make yourself more valuable-to any employer, in any industry.

Here they are: 1. Add value. "Adding value is the single most powerful personal attribute you can possess," says Les McKeown, President and CEO of success at work comand author of numerous books on career achievement

Did you ever hand a job or task to someone, knowing you would have to go back over it once they finished, to fix the inevitable errors and generally "mop up" after

"People who add value are just the opposite. You know when you give them a task that it will be completed on the time," says McKeown time, the way you want it, with no loose ends or unfin- surefire way to increase your shed parts," says McKeown. value on the job is to keep

"value adders" see the plex as getting your MBA or completion of an allocated as simple as reading a book task as only the starting every week.

Maybe it's by turning an event into a process Ex- sure your boss knows about ample not just clearing up a iti Completing training, such filing mess, but putting a filing system in place to avoid tion, can make it more likely future backrogs.

GrObOhO.com



BY DICHESTO BUCCAT

people consistently and appropriately add value-all

2 Become an expert A However, really successful learning. This can be as com-

Whatever you do to increase your expertise, make as Microsoft's MCSE certif cathat you'll be rewarded ap-"In whatever form it shows propriately in your next per- to paraphrase Woody Allen? tion, visit http://www.gre

Here's an example from the field of medicine.

I'm told the average doctor makes \$160,000 per year Not bad But I know a liver specialist in Michigan who makes \$500,000 and lives in a house the size of an airplane hanger He's a recognized expert. And he's re- success for you. warded appropriately.

What subject can you be come an expert in for your

80 percent of success really Job search assistance to clients on come just from showing up,

citipank

answer is "yes!" "I still remember my first promotion with a mixture of pride and amusement," says

"I was a young kid back in Ireland, and I had a paper route before school I needed the money and never missed a morning "

"After three months, the owner pulled me aside and said 'Les, I'm going on vacation for three weeks. I want you to be in charge I'll give you an extra five shillings every week."

When McKeown asked his manager why he had been chosen over older, more experienced newsboys, he got this reply: "Simple You're always there That means more to me than anything else I wanted peace of mind on vacation. I knew you'd be there every morning

Are you there every day for your employer? If so, you may find your steady presence makes you more valuable than less dependable co-

By adding value, becoming an expert, and "being there" every day, you can make yourself indispensable to any employer Which can lead to faster promotions, keys to the executive washroom-whatever it is that defines career

Best of luck to you!

(Kevin Donlin is president of Guaranteed Resumés. Since 1996, he and his writers have provided 3. Be there every day Can resumes, cover letters and online five continents. For more informa-In the minds of many, the sumes.com/book.htm.)

How can I improve ...

6.1 Name of company 6.2 Duration of emproy-

6.3 Position or designa-

6.4 Reporting to whom 6.5 Main tasks

6.6 Major accomplish-

7. Educational background 7.1 College degree and field of specialization—school,

honors attained, years attended 7.2 Secondary school school, honors obtained, years attended

7.3 Training programs attended, dates

8. Professional affiliations

9. Personal data

Features of good resumé The aim of both letter of application and resumé is to la-

fluence a prospective employer to single you out from other job applicants and call you in for an interview The contents and visual ap-

pearance of both documents must be impressive, otherwise, they will be set aside and filed, or worse, be even thrown into the wastebasket. The following are the fea-

tures of a good resumé: No typographical or grammatical errors

 Accurate and valid information. Be honest and truthful Don't exaggerate.

 No initials and jargon length, five pages maximum

· Uses builets; no long nar

Standard outline

There is a fairly standard outline form for specifying information about yourself. I will be giving some examples in this column. As I make the presentation below look at your resume and improve it as needed

1. Heading The heading

should include your full name, address, telephone and cell phone numbers. This information may either be centered at the top of the page or placed in the top lefthand corner.

2. Career goal (or objective): This should state your goal for the next five years, specifying the position and function and why

Example, "A financial management position that will use my technical skills in both finance and accounting to improve company profitability. At the same time, this posttion enables me to develop and hone my potentials."

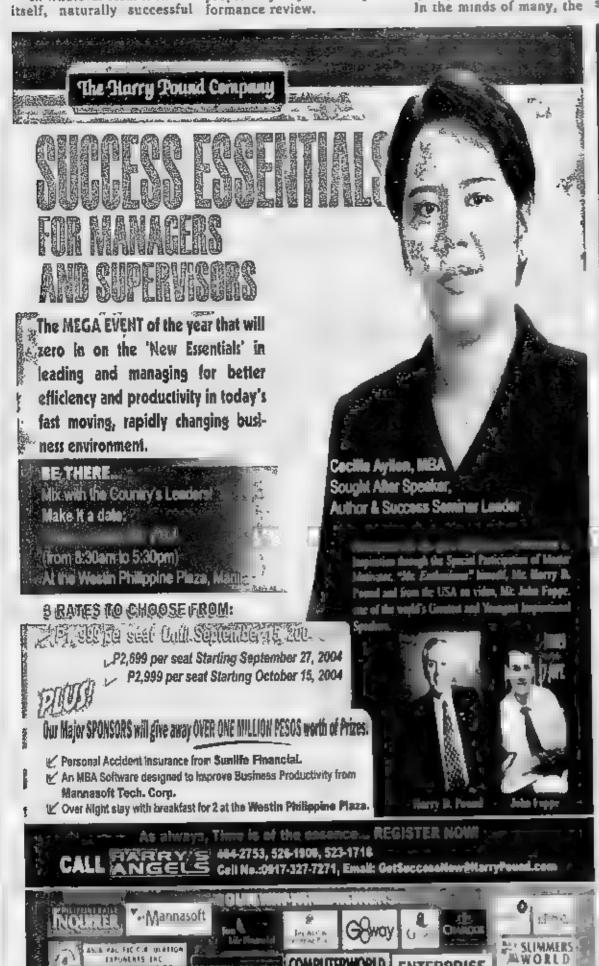
3 Career summary Summarize your work experience in one to two sentences, in what organization and industry you worked in. Write one to two sentences describing your key competencies and one to two sentences describing your personality strengths, work behavior and attitudes.

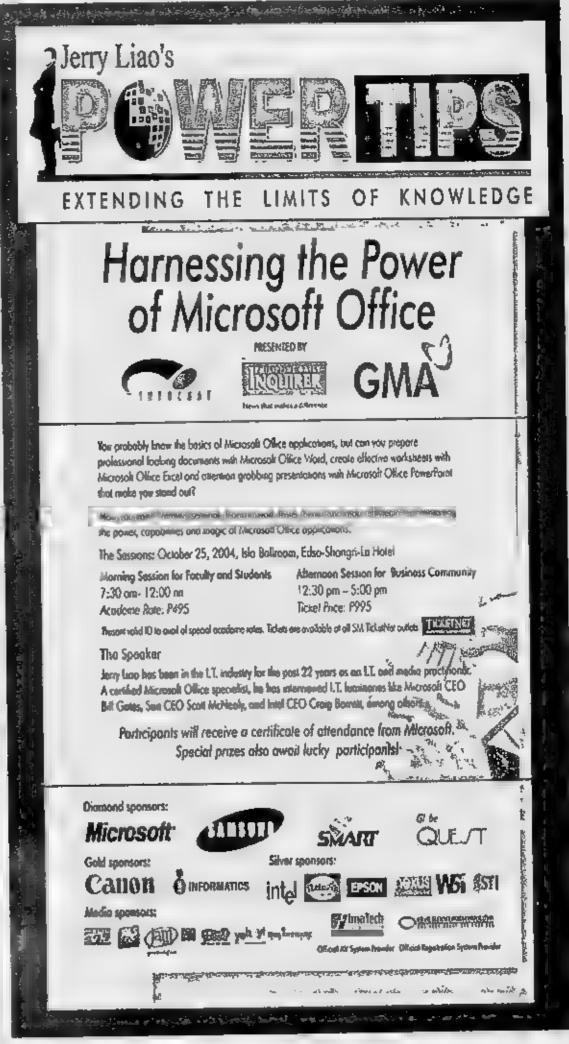
Example: "I have worked in several multinational companles rising from cost accounting clerk to financial analyst, to accounting supervisor and finance manager.

My competencies are in general management, financial planning and analyses, payroll and tax planning.

My personal attributes include the following, excellent interpersonal skills with people Brief two to four pages in of all levels in the organization, analytical and meticulous; have a sense of urgency, high stress tolerance; goal-oriented and task-oriented; possesses initiative and strong self-motivation, among others."

(Ms Santamaria is president of Career Systems Inc., a leading career development consultancy company. Send requests for career advice to carsys@qinet net or to peo pleatwork@.nqu.ter.com.ph)





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- Propie oriented
 Pressing personality and ability to work under

interested candidates should send their resumes with pictures via email to eindy 0 yehon com

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Editor Raul O. Marcelo

SundayIPEOPLEatWORK

What options do you have when facing conflict?

DEAR WW: I've had a long simmering conflict with a coworker. I'm not sure how I should proceed. Can you outline some options? **Reluctant Warrior**

Recently, I read about two Arizona nursing home residents who got in a fistfight. Luckily, neither was hurt and after they were separated, the combatants could not remember what happened or why they were fighting

Unfortunately, like these two seniors, many of us forget to fully explore our options for addressing and resolving conflict at work. Below I've listed five possible strategies for overcoming conflict. For more strategies, check out "A Survival Guide for Working with Humans" Gini Graham Scott (Amacom, 2004)

Confrontation

Let's start with what most of us think of when we think of conflict, confrontation. This is when you exercise your power to get what you want. As fun as it can be to flex your muscles with someone who you have more power than, confrontation runs the risk of altenating the other party. So even if you have the power to get what you want, you might want to consider the four additional approaches that are available to you

Collaboration

This is where you work with the other party to coneven know about

 Compromise I think that this "C" word gets a bad reputation at

BobRosner

sider the issues that you're fac- work. There are often many ing and to work together to times where our pride gets in resolve them Obviously, the way of a better outcome you've got to have a level of in compromise, each side trust with the other party, or gives a little so that both sides really matters to you.

Accommodation

to what the other party dealing with conflict, but if wants because they have you can remember to use more power or the issue isn't these techniques you will be that important to you. Even wise indeed. And they may if they are more powerful, save you a sock in the jaw. you can ask for something in return for your accommoda- a recent workingwounded tion. You might be surprised .com/ABCnews.com online what they'll give if you ini- ballot. Which conflict strattrace this process

Avoidance

General Patton said don't get in a fight if you don't cent gain anything by winning Ameni Often we can avoid a be willing to take a chance on can get something that they conflict by leaving, not creating it. Many of the times need out of the conflict. The thinking about it or by delay- cent that I've gone this route I've more you can give ground on ing any action. Remember, discovered that there were things that aren't that impor- it takes two to tango, just cent ways that the other party tant to you, the more the because someone else thinks could help me that I didn't odds will increase that you you are in a conflict it cent can neil down the stuff that doesn't mean that you have to join in.

This is where you give in wisdom when it comes to ded.com.)

Here are the results from egy do you use the most at work?

--Confrontation, 8.3 per-

-Accommodation, 13 4

-Compromise,

-Avoidance, 22.6 per

-Callaboration, 34 4 per

(Mr. Rosner is based in Se-

attle, Washington, USA. E-mad Age doesn't always bring him at bob@workingwoun

How can I improve my resumé?'

By Josie O. Santamaria

I WILL be graduating next month and my goal is to apply to multinational companies as a technical support staff, programmer or any IT-related position. Being aware of the

harsh realities in job hunting, I really need some pointers from you. I just made my resumé but I'm not sure if it is enough to impress prospective employers. I want to lmprove it, especially its contents, to ensure that I

ASK YOUR CAREER

get initial interviews or tests. Can you give me some constructive criticism with the best of your expertise? Seeking Advice

You are right about the need to impress prospective employers with a well-prepared resumé accompanied by a letter of application.

The letter of application is either a response to an advertised position or a means of finding out if an opening for a position exists. Address your letter to a specific person or position which appears in the advertisement.

First paragraph

Your first paragraph should state that you are applying

for a particular job position

Example 1: "Your advertisement in the Sunday Inquirer Job Market section dated Oct. 10, 2004, for the position of HR assistant, requires a person with an AB Psychology degree; is computer literate; is proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel and Powerpoint application; proficient in English, both oral and written; and can relate well with people of all levels in an organization. I fit all these requirements. 1 am, therefore, applying for this position "

If you have heard about a vacant position in a certain company, and this has not been advertised, you may start with this opener;

Example 2: "Do you need an administrative assistant who is proficient in several computer software applications (M.crosoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint); knows how to operate office equipment such as computer, fax machine, photocopier, proficient in oral and written English, who is resourceful, has high energy level, has a sense of urgency, is a team player, and gets along well with people? If you do, please consider me for this position."

Second paragraph

The second paragraph should briefly describe your last work experience, position and major achievements Then, refer the reader to the enclosed resume for more information about you.

The third paragraph should include the following: a courteous request for an interview at the convenience of the interviewer, and where and how you can be contacted.

The resumé is a concise summary of all the information about you with the following format:

I. Heading

Career objective

3 Career summary 4. Key achievements

Key competencies

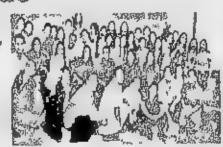
6. Work experience. For every company where you have

worked, include the following:



What's inside

HR Focus: Converges Human Resources Team p.9



Wby some people always succeed at work p. 6



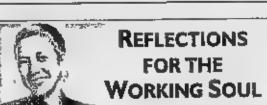
Dogged perseverance

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

IN THE WORKPLACE, calling out to someone day and night may earn you the title of makulit-or win you praises for being persevering-depending on who's looking. Your boss may think you have mastered the art of follow-up (that's kakulitan put to good use), while your colleague or assistant views that "art" as plain irritating. What matters is you get results by persistence. But how can you ever be sure of the

kind of results your persistence will get you? Negatlators at CBA season, like strikers at the picket line, may equally be persevering in their demands at the workplace, but as history has shown over and over again, even the most doggedly persevering of them do not always get what they want. Or if they do, it never satisfies them for long

Higher wages, better working conditions and added fringe benefits are more rewarding, when not only demanded but also worked for. Finding job satisfaction is a two-way street: employers must ensure their people of a fair deal, and workers should commit themselves to aiming always to render excellent performance no matter their position in the company. And never is one's commitment in work more tried than when a situation in the workplace seems hopeless: the profit level dips, there's talk of retrenchment, the country's economic climate dampens enthusiasm, etc. Perseverance then becomes a sign of faith---in the company, in oneself, and in the all-knowing Pather who is never daunted by our kakulitan but instead "secures the rights of His chosen ones who call out to Him day and night." (E-mail the author at teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com)





Frike 18:1-8 Will not God then secure the rights of His chosen ones who call out to Him day and night? Will He be slow to answer them?

Being in need

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

I MET Jenny, a mother of two kids, and a "non-documented" overseas Filipino worker abroad. She shared with me her constant worry about her precarious work situation, her continuous search for help from fellow workers, and her incessant prayers to God that she may get the proper work documents. She asked my help, too, and I could only assure her with the words of Jesus In today's Gospel, which promise that God will answer "his chosen ones who call out to Rim day and night "

Like Jenny, everyone in the workplace needs help, some small, others big. The employer needs the workers to realize the goals of his business. The worker, likewise, depends on the salary he gets from the employer to support his family and himself. Every person in every unit of the whole production system of a company needs others for an efficient performance. There is such interdependence there that if a worker fails to do his task, a possible breakdown could happen in the work process. No one in the workplace is so perfect and complete that he or she needs no assistance from the others.

When everyone realizes his need for the others and starts to accept his dependence on them, the workplace becomes a community of persons with a common expe rience-to be in need and to be ready to help those in need. The worker who finds a support community in the workplace will surely feel secure, when great difficulties come his way; it is like feeling the presence and support of God, who surely answers the prayers of His chosen ones, (E-mail the author at mfvg@skyinet.net)

HR group redefines meaning of teamwork

By Candy G. Villanueva Contributor

MERRIAM and Webster define teamwork as an activity of a number of persons acting in close associations as members of a unit. Convergys' human resources team adds to the duo's definition For them teamwork is more than just a group of people working together Teamwork for the group means sharing the same goals and continuous improvement.

With over 60,000 employees and about 57 contact centers worldwide, Convergys employs a big group of HR professionals in the Philippines to steer the company towards continuous growth, productivity and profitability. A company that provides outsourcing for and customer care services, of teamwork.

Young group

Convergys' HR team is composed mostly of young professionals in their early twenties. Growing in productivity and numbers, the group is headed by Penny Bongato, HR Director. From an HR team of 15 last year, the group charge has grown to 60. Getting a big group of people with different backgrounds and personalities to blend well is an easy task for Bongato. "She has an uncanny ability to harness together team members with diverse backgrounds and create an environment that brings out the best in each one," attests one of the mem-

In a big group, it's easy for a member to lose one's individuality and self-worth. "It's always good to break the team in small groups in order that each member can always contribute to his or her maximum potential," says Bongato. "As the out of problems. "For example, addition, most decisions in the team grows, it's easy to lose the what do you do with a low hit rate team are deliberated upon as a agility in our recruitment processes. in hiring call center agents that The turning radius of the wheel is plagues the industry? What do you the team, "Better decisions are bigger, making us vulnerable to do with 95 percent of the candi- made when all are involved and

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HR Focus

cruitment teams." She answers to this concern by making sure each employee is recognized for his or her contribution to the team.

Job satisfaction

Every member of the HR group believes that he or she plays . unique role in the organization. The team also believes that the role extends to the community. "It is knowing that we help our economy by generating good jobs," says Bongato's group. With great responintegrated billing, employee care, sibility resting on their shoulders, the team takes recruiting and hir-Convergys operates on the principle ing seriously. "We realize that our success is only as good as the quality of our people. So we put extremely stringent guidelines in place at the front end of the recruiting process."

For the team, nothing is more satisfying than building a world-class center by employing world-class workers. To achieve this, the HR group adopts a simple formula. "Recruit the best people, train and develop them to deliver excellent results to Convergys clients, thus, promoting new business opportunities leading to long-term viability, and is how to support the massive economic growth "

Challenges

The group hopes to be able to grow the company into 6,000 employees by the end of the year. A tough challenge for the HR team, but they believe that as long as they work together, nothing is impossible. To answer the challenge, the group has adapted a new paradigm smaller companies with nimble re- dates who fail due to insufficient team efforts transcend individual



FROM left to right, second row (second row): Alex Raymundo, Krissy Maxino, Wak Laqui, Eric Concepcion, Frances Ode, Edna Pangilinan and the rest of the Convergys human resources team members kid around at the shoot. ROGER CARPIO

English communication skills?" These are the questions team members try to answer. The HR team handles this predicament by designing and implementing initiaoaigns" not only within the organization but also in campuses and municipalities

After hiring the best talents, the next step is to keep these assets. "Our number one challenge in HR ramps that we are facing and how to build the infrastructure that will create an environment conductve to retaining the employees we worked so hard in attracting and hiring,' discloses a team member.

Common goals

*Our team understands and shares one common goal that is clearly translated into daily tasks." and that is to make opportunities shares another team member. In group. This is because according to

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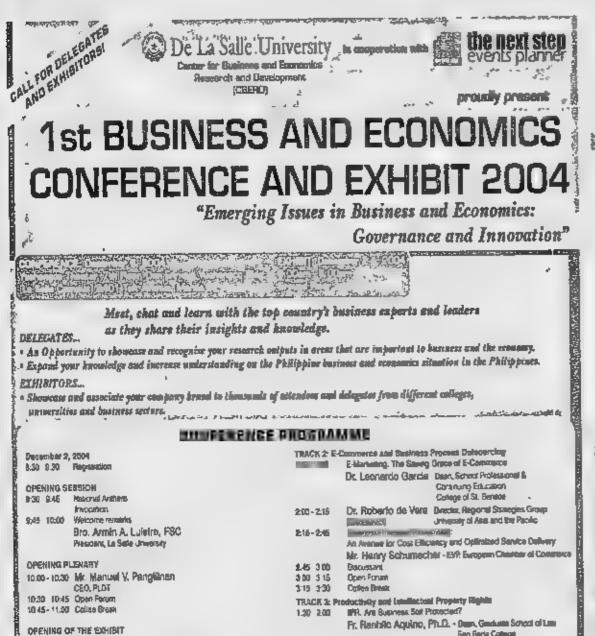
contributions "

Aside from growing the population of the company, another goal of the HR team is to achieve contives promoting "English Only Cam. this objective, the team is conprocesses for greater results. "We agree by saying "every member of rent processes in order to make do something extraordinary." way for new ones that promise greater success," says another team member. "We refuse to allow victories to lull us into a false sense of security and erode our capability to meet bigger and greater goals," adds another.

The corporate trend is steering its globalization. towards Convergys' HR team recognizes the urgent need to keep up. "Our team appreciates global competition and continually strives to re-establish the Filipino's stature and competence in the international market," says a team member. Another one of their goal is to deliver world-class results. "We believe that successes should be shared and benchmarked on a global basis."

Bongato helps her people achieve their goals by assigning them to the right area, where they can maximize their strengths. According to tinuous improvement. Because of the HR director, when employees are "in the zone," they become stantly changing or redesigning world-class employees. Members are not afraid of letting go of cur- our team believes that we can each

> Meeting goals
> Once they are positioned in the right place, Bongato gives them targets and realistic expectations. She also makes sure they're provided with ample resources to accomplish their tasks. Result-oriented, she manages her team lightly which gives them the freedom to express their individuality and practice their own management style. According to the team head, this strategy always produces the best results. "Manage lightly but cheer wildly about their accomplishments," she says. On moving ahead, she only has this to say, "benchmark with global standards, beat it by a mile and take the com-



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Luis 'Chavit' Singson

He relishes playing hero and avenger to his townmates and even to the country, but this seasoned politician knows only too well how his enemies are waiting to use his checkered past against him

By Joel V. Nigos + Photographs by Eugene Araneta

F he had his way, controversial flocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson says he wants to live the rest of his life peacefully and quietly. He, has already prepared for his retirement as early as three years ago, he says, after his pivotal role in ousting his friend-turned-nemesis former President Joseph Estrada. Rather than seek public office, he shunned cabinet appointments and kept a low profile. Singson says he'd much rather devote himself to taking care of his exotic pets-seven Bengal tigers, nine Shetland ponies, three ostriches, several deer, § pythons, iguanas, horses, peacocks-or go skeet and trap shooting and big-game hunting, not to mention high-stakes gambling. That is, if his past had left him alone.

instead, claims this reelected official, his enemies used the full from politics to get back at him. There's the ongoing Estrada plunder trial where witnesses and defense lawyers have repeatedly painted him as corrupt himself, allegedly being the virtual bagman and collection agent of the former President. Retirement has to wait, Singson says, lest his opponents use their positions to bound and attack him, "To page 2

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Standing tall in Baluarte, his stronghold in Vigan

Baluarte, Singson's sprawling 70-hectare residence in Vigan where he keeps his pet animals, is aptly named. It is the governor's stronghold, his fort, where he can be his quintessential self without fearing media exposure or political recriminations.

Today, he has just arrived from Manila via his six-seater private plane. Talking alternately on his two cell phones in his native flocano, the governor switches moods almost instantly. Cordial to his visitors—a noisy posse of local government officials, townsfolk, investors, architects and urban planners—he turns ballistic when asked about the ongoing Estrada plunder case.

Skirting the issue

"They're hitting me again at the Sandiganbayan," he fumes in Filipino. They're skirting the issue, he adds. "Ang linaw-linaw ng ebidensiya laban kay Erap. (The evidence against Erap is strong). So what they're doing is destroy my credibility. Gusto nilang sirain ako sa mata ng publiko (They want to destroy me in the eyes of the public)."

That morning, Erap's defense lawyers presented witnesses who accused Singson of being a "demonstrably corrupt governor" who had unliquidated cash advances of P2.9 million during his previous term as governor. Rene Saguisag, the lead defense counsel, also claims that the Ilocos official has unliquidated cash advances totaling P800 million from 1995 to 1999. The governor denies this; he has settled all his cash advances, he says. "They can look into the records," he adds.

Singson is also being made to account for the P170 million in tobacco excise taxes that, he claims, Estrada took as kickback. Saguisag had charged that the issue and Singson's alleged culpability has prompted him to do a tell-all on the former President. The P170-million kickback is one of the four predicate cases in the P4.1 billion plunder suit filed against Estrada at the Sandiganbayan.

The ambush-killing of COA auditor Agustin Chan in 2001 is also being laid at the governor's door. He counters: "Inaamin ko hindi ako anghel pero 'di naman ako masamang tao at nag-usip naman ako. (I admit I'm no angel, but I'm not that evil either and I use my head). If I wanted to have Chan killed, why would I do it in my own backyard? Maybe they had him killed so they could lay the blame on me," he continues in Filipino.

But politics do make for strange bedfellows, with good friends turning into enemies overnight. Before his war with Estrada, Singson had to contend with the Crisologos, one of the longest-reigning political families in the North.

"My parents were supporters of the Crisologos, my mother being the sister of Floro," says this seasoned politician who says his entry into politics was unintentional. His father, Joseling, was a two-term mayor of Vigan, an engineer who was also into construction. His mother meanwhile was involved in the production of Virginia tobacco.

He also traded tobacco, Singson says.
"But the time came when the Crisologos wanted to control the tobacco trade. They monopolized the buying and brought down the price," he recounts in Filipino. They were in power and people had no choice but sell to them, he claims. "There were checkpoints, and no trucks could bring out tobacco for sale nor could buyers come in. Even the Marcoses could not stop the practice."

instant hero

Tired of the abuses of the powers-thatbe who also wanted to take over Vigan Electric Corp. which he owns, Singson says he decided to ram through the checkpoints with several truckloads of tobacco. His daring became the talk of the town and he was hailed as an instant hero, a liberator of his province.

"The people wanted me to challenge the Crisologos so I run against Floro for a House seat in 1969, but lost," he recounts. He ran for governor in the next election and won overwhelmingly. That started it all. "Since then, I've never lost an election," he says.

Playing hero to his province mates is a role that Singson seems to relish as he recounts his exploits with little coaxing. Once, he says, he noticed that the owner of a bus company, the old Times Transit, was constantly berating his employees. He recounts in Filipino, "He was very arrogant, the old man. He would scold his workers everyday—in English, at that. They were always complaining, so I put up my own bus company and got them to work for me. Hah! The old bus owner later went bankrupt," Singson laughs.

Living in his small world and occasionally playing the poor man's avenger would have suited him fine, he says, had he not been thrust into the "jueteng scandal." "I told the Erap camp to leave me alone and I'd keep quiet (about the illegal numbers game)," he recounts. "But when I realized they were out to kill me, I decided to expose him. Sabi ko sa surih ko, buhay na ang nakataya rito, patay na kung patay (I told myself, my life's at stake here. I'll go down fighting!"

The rest, as everyone knows, is history. Implicating Estrada in the jueteng



scandal during his impeachment trial for corruption ultimately led to the former President's ouster through People Power II in January, 2001.

Alleged vices

His heroics have hardly stienced the buzz about the governor's alleged profligate ways, however. Wine, women and mahjong are some of the vices that detractors have attached to him. But Singson says he's given them up. Except for red wine, he has stopped drinking, the governor claims, because he's had a heart bypass operation.

He remains mum about his women "Wale akong hiling diyan (I'm not into that)," is all he would say, bursting into laughter. Mention the names of some women being linked to him and the governor will only grin, neither confirming nor denying anything. Sources maintain, however, that one thing that Singson shares with former bosom pal Estrada is a passion for women.

While he's discreet about his women, Singson's eyes light up when asked about his mahjong sessions and his winnings. He's been to Las Vegas, Macau and Montecarlo, he says, and other places in the world where there's high-stakes gambling.

"I get VIP treatment in Las Vegas, Pagdating ko sa hotel binibigyan agad ako ng \$10,000 kapalit ng aufare ko (When I ger to my hotel, they immediately give me \$10,000 to make up for the authre I spent)." Singson says proudly. He used to go to Las Vegas often, he adds, but has trimmed that down to once or twice a year. He recounts that during Estrada's time in Malacañang, he used to win up to P40 million a night playing mahjong with the former President and cronies Mark Jimenez and William Gatchalian. His biggest winning so far was in Monte Carlo, where Singson says he's won \$1 million.

The smile of Lady Luck

Lady Luck apparently smiles at Singson even beyond the gaming tables. He has survived seven actual ambushes, the governor claims. This does not include, he says, those which were planned but were not carried out. The most famous one, of course, was that in October 2001, when a traffic patrol stopped his bulletproof car in downtown Manila for an alleged traffic violation. Locking his doors, Singson called for

help from his legislator friends who were playing at the nearby casino. Heavily escorted, he made his way to a police precinct where he called for an impromptu press conference and made what became known as the "lord of all jueteng lords exposé" against Estrada.

There's no secret, no amulet, behind his surviving all those assassination at tempts, he claims. "Masamang damo yata tayo, ayaw ako tanggapin (I guess I'm a bad weed that can't be rooted out that easily)," he laughs. It's just luck, he adds. "Once in Cabagao (Ilocos Sur), someone threw a hand grenade at me Eleven people near me perished, but I survived!" He doesn't believe in amusets, Singson says, but he's keeping one in his pocket—just to be sure

God, he acknowledges, has been "very very good to me." But while he used to read the Bible, Singson says that more than karma, he believes in destiny, not to mention careful planning. Knowing he has made a lot of enemies in his more than 30 years in politics and in his ongoing fight with the Estrada camp, the flocos kingpin admits that security is a prime concern for him. "I always have to watch my back," he confesses. He has six close-in security aides, members of the Presidential Security Group provided by Malacañang.

Ready for retirement

it's been an exciting life, but he's ready to retire once his term ends in 2007, Singson says. "Naniniwala kusi aka na ang buhay, sandah lang. (Life's too short). I want to enjoy life and have the freedom to go anywhere without watchful eyes following my every move."

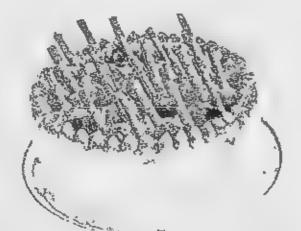
Besides, he adds, he has had enough frustration with politics. "In politics, you cannot really please everybody. When you give in to someone, the others wilt get mad at you. And you need to always guard your back," says Singson.

"I'd rather stay with my pets," he adds. "I feel more relaxed with them. And even when I know there's always danger when I loll around with my rigers, at least I know that I'm dealing with animals. So pulltika kosi di ko no alam kung sino ong hayop at suio ong too (In politics, it's hurd to tell which one is man or beast)"

Sunday Inquirer Magazine October 17, 2004 Vol. 8 No. 33 SSN 0114 - 231X

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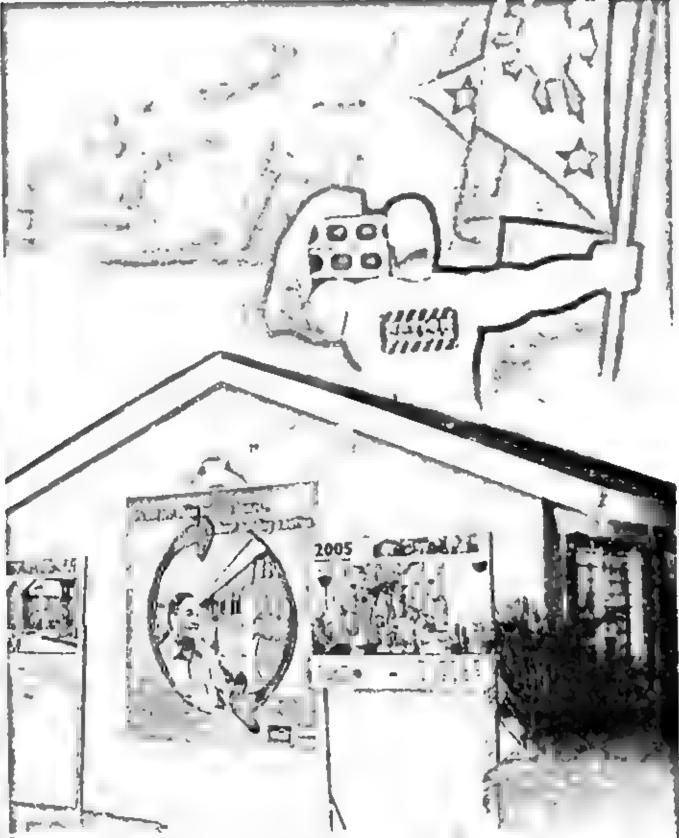
ERRATUM

In the story, "Family Values" by Dennis M. Arroyo (SIM, October 3, 2004), the surrame of one of the featured families was misspelled. The Villamin family is actually the VILLAMIL family. SIM and the author regret the error









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Fersicene

LTHOUGH Marie Grace Pamela Faylona doesn't look like the type to get her hands dirty, this self-confessed "cowboy" could actually put "Fear Factor" contestants and "Survivor" castaways to shame. Now on the fifth year of her master's degree in Archeology at the University of the Philippines in Dillman, the 27-year-old student and researcher has been known to rough it in the roughest of ways. She once lived in a camp with no water, save for torrential rains that lasted a week, and literally stumbled upon the bones of a human foot on her first excavation in Cagayan Valley. "Wow!" she swoons, her face beaming with excitement over the life-changing experience. "I wasn't afraid, but it was then that I realized our ancestors did exist and that this is the real thing."

Up until then, Paylone assumed Archeology-that is, the study of our history through material remains-was a discipline encountered only in works of fiction ("The Alchemist") and the silver screen ("The Mummy"). Then a friend told her about the archeology program offered in UE Paylona, who studied agribusiness management in UP Los Baños so she could help develop the family's property in Laguna, didn't have to think twice. "In high school, they talked about medicine, law and all these other popular courses," she says. "Well, I'm done with my undergrad degree, so I thought it was time to do something I wanted."

Passion for old stuff

But while Archeology allowed her to travel extensively and deive deeply into her passion for "bistory, culture and old stuff," it too came with a great responsibility. Faylona, who has joined team expeditions in Batanes, Palawan, Mindoro, and Nueva Ecije, is careful to present herself well before wary and resistant townsfolk. "They think we're treasure hunters looking for Yamashita gold," she says with a smile. "But we always pay courtesy calls to the local government and invite people to visit our sites and ask all the questions they want. What's nice is that after a month of living in the community, the people who were suspicious of us at the start are now sharing stories about what they learned from our excavation."

Ironically, unearthed artifacts yield mixed feelings. "On the one hand, you're excited because you become a part of the history you've uncovered," says Faylona, who chanced upon an eene burial ground in Batanes (as in large jars, plied mouth-tomouth, containing human remains) and traces of an ancient coral fence beneath a church in her mother's native Mindoro. "On the other hand, parang nagawa ka, especially if it's a burial site and I disturb it."

Excavation chronicles

For now, found objects are sent to the National Museum for study and safekeeping, but a barang gay can file a memorandum of agreement should it wish to keep the artifact in its possession. Faylona, however, believes that the rules "should be in black and white or else there will be conflict and factions." As such, she and other members of the Katipunan ng Archeologists ng Pilipinas are involved in the drafting of a landmark code of ethics. Meanwhile, Test Pit, a newspaper-magazine she founded two years ago, is her way of turning the little-known subject into popular science through youth-oriented chronicles of excavations and updates on the growing archeology community.

Though her efforts have not gone unrewarded, Paylona, one of 10 young women achievers recognized recently with a Dove Bukod Tanging Filipina award, insists that she has just skimmed the surface of her chosen field. "Archeologically speaking, vir-

Young archeologist Marie Grace Faylona helps piece Philippine history together through intrepid excavations that sometimes turn up skeletal remains

gin pa ang Pilipinas, there's still so much to discover and explore," says Faylone, whose Bukod Tanging Filipina beneficiaries are the Wilhelm G. Solhelm II Foundation and the Mangyan Hentage Center. "Kaya lang, there's not enough people and the sites are often looted by treasure hunters, so our artifacts end up elsewhere."

Mall frustration

That people frequent malls rather than museums is also a frustration. "If you understand, "Ano ba ng nakain nito at ligious. Even though they say science could only spend a day in a museum, napunta sa Archeology? Hindi ka ba and faith do not mix, I think they go you'll have a sense of what it feels like to nagalikabok?" (What did you eat that hand in hand. For me, our findings afbe a Filipino. And that's something to be you ended up in archeology? Doesn't firm the presence of God."

The younger of two girls, Paylona apparently takes after her mother, an agriculturist who interviewed farmers about their crops and feed. "I've seen pictures of her in her travels and she looks very happy," Faylona herself experiences a freedom like no other whenever she's about to embark on an out-of-town excavation—a fact well meaning family and friends have yet to

the dust bother you?) Faylona simply laughs off the questions. "When they see that I come home with so many stories, they know that I'm happy."

Perhaps it's because, in the course of unearthing clues into our country's colorful history and culture, her soul is unraveled in the process. "Archeology has made me patient, focused on my work and more aware of my surroundings," she reflects. "I've also become more re-



[he Word

By Fr. Ruben J. Villote



Why Be in a Hurry?

If this moment is the moment of grace, If this hour is the hour of change, if this day is the day of salvation, what need is there to hurry to the next moment?

E ARE all people in a hurry. We are forever meeting deadlines, following schedules and keeping busy running here and there, meeting people, writing letters, catching the bus, and being caught by a dozen other things "before the time is up." We are enslaved not so much by power and wealth but by time.

Everybody is under pressure doing this and that, rushing here and there, pushing buttons and making everything instant-Instant coffee, instant marriage, Instant fame, instant wealth, even instant death. And yet everybody looks terribly bared. And so, bared people keep inventing toys and entertainment gimmicks all the time to beat their boredom. But the more they busy themselves doing this, the more bared they become. They say to themselves: "There's no use! Whatever I do or say makes no difference after all. The world goes on just the same, and I remain the same. So what's the use?" This is called fatalism.

Fatalism is surrender to the meaninglessness of life. Fatalism is seeing nothing of value in the things we do and in the events that happen to us. Fatalism is seeing time as opaque time; seeing nothing beyond the here and the now. Opaque time is time merely as chronos, a mere succession of incidents and accidents over which we have no control.

The opposite of opaque time is transparent time. there to catch the next hour grow old?

Transparent time is not mere chronos but kairos. Kairos means this-moment-as-the-golden-

moment-for-me. Koiros means this time as the right time for me to be the best I could ever be. Koiros means this hour as the hour I am waiting for. Kairos means this day as the first and the greatest day of the rest of my life. This is transparent time. Transparent, because I can see through the mere succession of triumph? events a vision of eternity. I can see in every event of life, no matter how dark-like war, corruption, sickness, injustice, poverty—a possibility of be-

Therefore, if this moment is the moment of grace, if this hour is the hour of change, If this day is the day of salvation, what need is there to hurry to

and to rush to the next day as if the next hour and the next day are more important than this hour and this day? Can I not see in this hour and this day the beginning of God's Kingdom? Can I not see through the shadows and tears of this moment the shining face of a victorious Christ inviting me, calling me to transform this moment and every moment into moments of

If therefore every moment and every hour contains in itself an invitation to change and grow, how can I get bored? How can I get bored in my coming the right moment for work if I make my time transparent? How can I get bored in & my career if I know how to linger in every moment, and say, "This is the moment, this is the hour for me to begin to live!" If all our time is transpar-, the next moment? What need is ent time, how can we ever !

HOW OLD IS YOUR HEARTS

A 26-year old can have a heart age of a 40-year old, while a 59-year old can have a heart age of someone half his age. Simply put, young doesn't always necessarily equate to being healthy.

To find out if you have a heart older than you actually are, check those which apply to you:

FAMILY HISTORY - Those who have male relatives below 55 and female family members below 65 who have had heart attacks are genetically susceptible to strokes or coronary heart diseases.

BLOOD PRESSURE - 140/80 mmHg or above confirms hypertension.

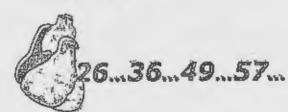
SMOKING

DIABETES - Those who are afflicted with types I and II diabetes for 15 years or more have increased cardiac risk.

CHOLESTEROL - A reading of 200mg/dL (6.2 mmol/L) or above is a dangerously high level.

LIFESTYLE - Sedentary individuals are more prone to high blood pressure, high cholesterol and type II diabetes.

A check on any of the above means that your heart is at risk of being older than your chronological age.



To lower the risk of premature heart aging, do the following:

EXERCISE - Follow a regular exercise program.

MENTAL RELAXATION - Take a break and manage stress levels by indulging in relaxing activities.

TAKE VITAMIN SUPPLEMENTS -

Vitamin E is a powerful antioxidant that works against free radicals which cause cell damage and

cent damage and contribute to cardiovascular disease. It helps in preventing hardening of the arteries which could lead to heart disease.

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Young doesn't always mean healthy.

Take New Enervon-E to help prevent cholesterol build-up for a healthy heart.

Live More



All in the Game

By Lorenzo Z. Manguiat Photographs by August dela Cruz

OOL, focused and possessing nerves of steel. These are just some of the characteristics that earned pool player Mika Immonen the title "The iceman."

Frigid-sounding as his monicker may be, the Finland native quickly warmed up to the Philippines. While his initial visits to the country may have been memorable for him socially, Immonen's performances on the pool table were completely forgettable.

"My first time in the Philippines was the summer of 2002, and the first couple of times I came here I didn't do. too well at all. I think I was partying too much. I was a little off," he admits. "I was just overwhelmed with how well I was known here. The hospitality of the people and their outgoing nature, the whole scene was like 'wow,' so I really liked this place. I can't point out a single thing, but it was everything combined and just too much fun. I guess I couldn't focus on the game."

Nevertheless, things quickly changed for the Iceman on his third visit.

"The third time for the LG Flatron Challenge, I was determined. This time I was just going to focus on the game. If I was going to party, I'd party after the game," he recalls. True to his word, the Iceman froze the opposition, including Pinoy legend Efren "Bata" Reyes in the finals, to bag his first tournament in the Philippines in December 2002.

A month off

Immonen rewarded himself a few months later as he took a month off pool and traveled around the country for five weeks, visiting some of the best local tourist destinations such as Boracay and Baguio City in early 2003.

Proving that his first win was not a fluke, Immonen claimed his second title in a row in the country as he ruled broadcast giant ABS-CBN's inaugural On Cue Championships in July 2003.

Immonen then earned his third title in the Philippines in November of last year as he again beat Reyes in the finals of the first Café Puro 9 Ball Open. "It was another feather in my cap, but it was weird because I hadn't played that well in other parts of the world. I guess it's the good environment that makes it very motivating and inspiring for me to play. People like pool so much here,

you have fun and try to show something stick in his hometown of Helsinki when fact that I had lost to guys I didn't they came to watch," he says.

Immonen has also made a lot of friend in the country. "Filipinos are more outgoing that Finnish people, but deep down they are similar. The weather is better here and I was able to adjust easily-and it doesn't hurt that the girls are pretty" acknowledges the 31-year old bachelor.

Focused on winning

Immonen revealed that he would eventually like to settle down, but realized that it would be hard because his playing career involves too much traveling. In the meantime, he is focused on playing and

make a living out of it," says Immonen. It's hard to imagine how far pool has taken Immonen since he first picked up a cue

he was 15. He even fondly remembers his even know really got to me so I decidfirst tournament win.

"I turned 16 quickly after I started and won my first tournament before Christmas. The funny thing was, the top prize in the competition was ham, which is a very traditional Christmas gift in Finland. It was huge, around eight kilos," he recounts. "I won the tournament and literally brought home the bacon."

From dominating the local front, Immonen eventually became the national champion and made his mark in Europe. However, he still longed for more challenges. "I wanted to explore more, but I "I feel fortunate to do what I like and still stayed in Europe from 1992 to 1996. It was only in 1996 that I went for the first time to the States to check out the scene over there and gain good experi-

ence. Even though ! lost often, I had a good idea, I want to see what the game was like in the States, just to have a good picture, and 1 realized that the standard in America was really high. There were a lot of good players you never even know who could kick your butt," bares Immo-HIR.

Drastic measures

ir was a struggle for Immonen during his first few years in the States, and in 1998 he decided to do something drastic to change his fortunes. T had to change my attitude, my mental game. I knew it was mental because my skills weren't going to disappear anyway. The

ed to run a marathon and started training just to get a little bit of the focus off the game," he says. "The marathon was in October, but already in August I started playing billiards really good, I placed third in the US Open and I was running 30 to 40 kilometers a week. On the same day I would be playing billiards, I would have run six miles earlier, but I noticed just how much the physical and mental came together and realized how I could use it to my advantage. I guess after you train hard, you have the endorphins in your body and you feel very good all day and when you. play, you have positive feelings."

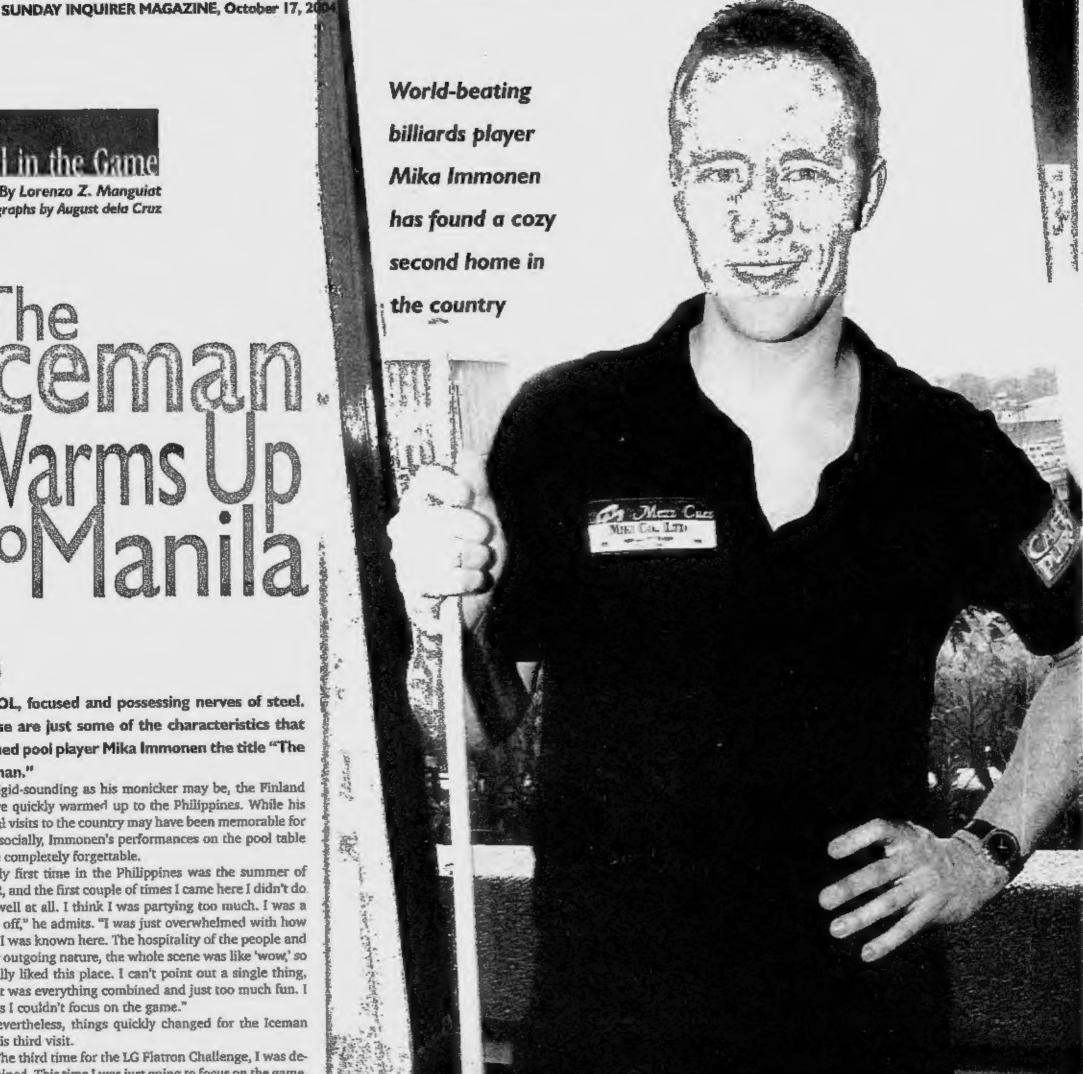
Immonen ended up running the marathon in Ireland under his goal of four hours, but more importantly, he started playing more consistently at the pool table, and became a tough tour player to beat.

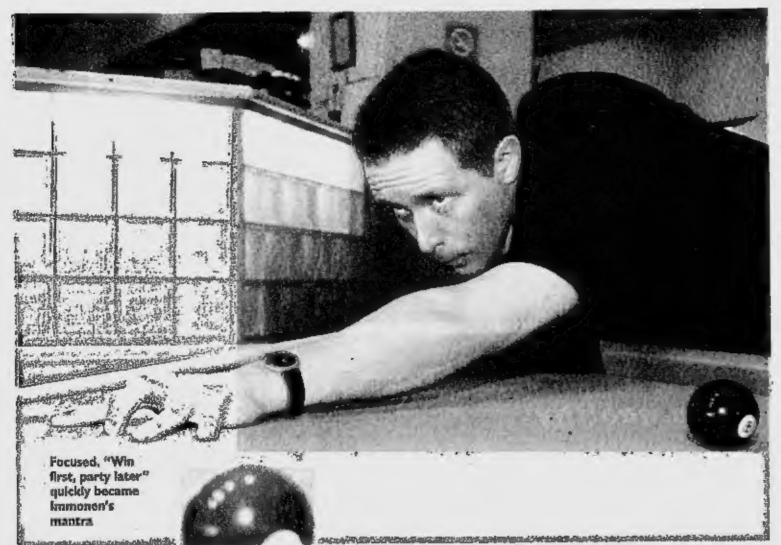
Killer instinct

In 2001, Immonen strung up five second-place finishes before his breakthrough win in the World Pool Championship in Cardiff, Wales, "It was my biggest win and I proved that I had the killer instinct," he says. Right now, Immonen is still considered as one of the premier international pool players and currently ranks in the top 10 in the money list.

This cool fellow's career is certainly just heating up-and he's found the perfect hot spot to call a second home. In 2003 alone, Immonen visited the Philippines no less than six times. This year, it's likely that he will surpass that mark.

"I think I spend at least 200 to 250 days a year outside Finland and I've spent more time in the Philippines than any other place," he shares. "The culture is kind of soaking in and I'm learning a little bit of Tagalog. The first phrase I actually learned was mahal ko ang Pilipinas (I love the Philippines)."





About Face 2, portraits of contemporary artists and friends by Elaine-Roberto-Navas' at Finale Art Gallery, SM Megarnall until Oct. 24.

Iskultura Filipino, a group exhibit of sculptures by Ton Raymundo, Ral Arogante, Primo Libatique, Arnel Borla, Roen Capule, Arvin Javier and Jun Vicaldo at the OneLina Lifestyle Center, Eastwood City Cyber Park, Libis, QC until Oct. 24.

Phyllis Zaballero returns to a favorite visual motifthe window in her latest exhibit, Whimsical Windows, until Oct. 27 at Galleria Duemila, The Artwalk, 4/L, SM Megumall A. For details, cell 634-

Birthpains, a two-man exhibit of paintings and sculptures by Gil Blen and Freddie

Gonzales at the CCP Pasilyo VIcente Manunsala until Nov. 7.

Music

In celebration of the Spanish Festival for Culture and the Arts, one of the best Flamenco-jazz trios in the world, Caponata Argamacho, will perform in a series, of concerts in Mania and Cebu: Oct. 20, 2 p.m. in Cabu; Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m. at RCBC Plaza in Makati, and Oct. 22, 7 p.m. st Greenbelt 3.

Arpk Diwa enters its third season as its concert, Changes, unthes with the original concept of

recognizing Benildean musical talents. Performances are scheduled on Oct. 22 and 23, 4 p.m. at the Augusto-Rosario Gonzalez Theater, S/F, Solomon building. De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde, Tickets at PISO, For Inquiries, call 832-2092 or 526-7441 to 47

Donna Summer returns with the album The Journey, The Very Best of Donna Summer leaturing her unforgettable mega dance hits like "Last Dance," "Hot Stuff," "On the Radio" and "MacArthur Park," The album also features Summer's latest collaborations with writer Giorgio Moroder. The double CD is now available in music stores nationwide distributed by MCA Music Inc.

The Manifa Chamber Orchestra Foundation prasents Mariel Ilusorio, Germany-based Filipina classical plantst in a concert on Oct. 22, 7:30 p.m. at the Francisco Santiago Hell, Equitable PCI Bank Tower 1, Makati Avenue, Makati City: For tickets, call 878-4358 to 59.

Onstage

Marabers of the Association of Ballet Academies of the Philippines presents An Afternoon with ABAP in Concert at the Park today at 5 p.m. featuring More Than Dance, Vella C. Damien School of Ballet, Mirlam Ballet and Steps Dance School to be held

at the Rizal Park Open-Air Auditorium. Admission is

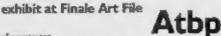
The Developmental Advocacy of Women Volumteerism (DAWV) Foundation, Inc., an organization promoting volunteerism and social development, has recently signed an agreement with the Department of Education for its Adopt-A-School program. To raise funds for the production of materials to be used in the literacy project and seminar-workshops for its volunteers, DAWV will present the Reportory Children's Theatre musical production, Pinocchio on Oct. 24 at the Rep's Globe Theatar in Greenbelt 1, Paseo de Roscas, Makati. For details, call 631-5071.

Food

Roberto-Navas, on

Fuego Hotels & Properties together with the Economic & Commercial Office of the Spanish Embassy brings the Flavors of Spain to the new Taal Vista Hotel

in Tagaytay City. "Flavors of Spain," a food festival featuring Spanish gournvet dishes, will run until Oct. 31. Try Taal Vista's version of the popular Spanish tapes complemented by the Sangria and the buffet of traditional Spanish favorities on weekends. The food festival will also be held in other Fuego-managed properties: the Pearl Farm Beach Resort in Davag on Nov. 13 to 30, Club Punta Fuego on Nov. 19 to 30 and Terrazas de Punta Fuego on Dec. 10-39. For inquiries, call Ruego Hotels at (02) 750-1999 or Taal Visra Honel at (02) 751-3088/89 or "About Face 2" by Elaine (046) 413-1000.



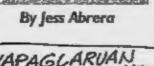
Carholic by preacher Bo Sanchez is the main speaker at Kerygma Live! on Oct. 17, 2 p.m at the Ultra. His fatest book "Your Past Does Not Define Your Future," will also be launched at the event. The event includes a Mass and a concert with Nyoy Volance and the Mannos, Karyli, Crisel Consum and others. Admission is free.

Advanced Travel Writing Workshop. Learn good travel writing by exploring the works of the best in the genre with a walking tour built in to the sessions. To be held on Ocz, 20 and 27, Nov. 3 and 10 at Filipinas Hieritage Library, Makati Avenue across Manila Peninsula, 6-9 p.m. Workshop fee is P2,500 inclusive of handouts, walking tour and certificates. Deadline for confirmation Is Oct. 19. For inquiries, call 892-1801.

There will be a pre-Christmas CD sale on Oct. 17, 27 to 29 at the 28/F, Paffler Corporate Center, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City. The sale showcases original albums of the best pop, R&B, hiphop and juzz. entists, hard to find compliation albums and various singles for as low as P20. For inquiries, call Lucille at 916-

Surrenit School is conducting a workshop on How Children Think: Implications in Preschool and Elementary Education with Dr. Ma. Emma Concepcion D. Liwag on Oct. 19 and 23 at 8 a.m. to be held at 5ummit School, Bonifacio Global City, University Parkway, Taguig, For reservations, call 881-9032/34.

Gantimpala Theater Foundation sets audition



I Inovanga



For this week's bands and schedules call: · Hard Rock Café (893-4667-65)

Virein Caló : OC (926-

• '70s Bistrot 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492) · Hobbit House 1801 Habini St., Malate, Manife

Strumm's: El Pueblo, Orógas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes

listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two

weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

for its season-ender productions of Nick Joaquin's "May Day Eve" and Alejandro Roces' "Kiko's Super Cock" on Oct. 19, 7 p.m. at the Rehearsal Hall of the Concert at the Park Auditorium, Luneta, Manila. it is open to male and female actors, 16-60 years old, English-speaking, with pleasing personality and stage presence. They must bring a color full-body photograph and prepare a monologue in English. During the audition, parts of the play will be read. For details, call 536-5860 and 528-0603.

Multimedia artist Joey Yorac will hold a handbuilding pottery class covering three sessions of three hours each on Oct. 23-25 and on Nov. 13-15 at The Sevenity Healing Center in Pasig City. Participants will learn, exporience and explore the different bechniques of portery making without the use of the wheel. For details, call 634-5058.

10

Sebastian products for as low as P350 are 285-2449 or (0916) 3622406. available at Fix Bench Salons, First Aid Salons and Pendre Salons until Oct. 31.

The Damdaming Katoliko sa Teolohiya, a Catholic theological association, is launching its first book, Fundamentalism and Pluralism in the Church, edited by Dennis Gonzalez, on Oct. 23, 11 a.m., at the Ariston Estrada Hall, De La Saile University Manila. The book describes some forms of fundamentalism and pluralism in contemporary Christianity and how they relate to one another. Distinguished theologians will offer reviews of the

book. For inguiries, call 725-0976.

The UP Film institute will conduct a Screenwriting Workshop for Teachers in cooperation with Centre International de Lizison des Ecoles de Cinema et de Television to be held from Oct. 22 to 29 and conducted by Chris McGill-filmmaker, teacher and principal lecturer of the Victorian College of Arts in Maibourne, Australia. Workshop (ee is PS,000 and is limited to 15 participants who are preferably teachers and professionals. Participants will go through scriptwriting

Savors exercises that will be subjected "Flavors of to incisive evaluation for the Spain" att duration of the course. For de-Taal Vista tails, call the UP Film institute Hotel et 925-0286 or 926-3640.

Intro to Poetry Writing, a seminar-workshop on classical, hallou and free verse writing to be held on Ocr. 23 at the Loyola School of Theology, Ateneo, Quezon City. For details, call

X-manila

The Asia Society symposium provided a much-needed airing of the root causes of the Mindanao conflict. As

one participant put it, it's better to spend a thousand

nights arguing than to spend one day shooting

On Oct. 23, there will be a Seminar on Butterfly Farming to create awareness on the importance of butterfly conservation to be held in Los Baños, Laguna. The seminar will also cover the how to's of butterfly farming even in the home yards, economic prospect, butterfly species, host plants and nectar foods, cages and other farming structures and facilities. For details, please califrent 0918-9407126 or 0926-3869011.





Schizophrenia in High Places

EW YORK--Two columns ago, I discussed the post-9/11 treatment of Filipino immigrants in the United States and the increase in the incidence of their deportations even though, in this so-called global war on terror, we are supposed to be allies and friends. I also mentioned briefly how a Muslim scholar from Mindanao had been denied entry to this country at the Los Angeles International Airport. And yet he had a valid visa, and invitations to a conference of indigenous peoples at the United Nations, and to a symposium at the Asia Society. In solidarity, other Filipino participants declined to participate, forcing the cancellation of the symposium titled "Securing Peace in Mindanao: Resolving the Roots of Conflict." Denying entry to Abhoud Syed Lingga, director of the Institute of Bangsamoro Studies and chair of the Bangsamoro People's Consultative Assembly, betrayed all too clearly an official mindset rife with

paranoia and xenophobia. On the last Monday of this past September, the sym- and representations were made, the two posium did finally take place, with Prof. Lingga now in attendance, along with Prof. Jamail Kamlian of Mindanao State University, and Carolyn Arguillas, Davaobased journalist and one of the founders of Mindanao News (I have used Arguillas' dispatch in describing Lingga's Orwellian odyssey). This time Lingga's port of entry was New York; at the symposium, he referred lightheartedly to the May faux pas, saying that, as he had given his word to the Society about being present, he had every intention of keeping it. And did. You might think; end of story. Unfortunately not. In an indication of how security procedures here have become a nightmare if you happen to profess the wrong faith and bear the wrong kind of name (as the former rock star Cat Stevens, now Yusuf Islam, will attest to), the good scholar was denied exit-yes, exit-from Fortress America at San Francisco's airport on October 1. The alleged reason? Lack of clearance from the US Transportation Security Administration. (Or perhaps San Francisco's Immigration officials couldn't be-

lieve a Third Worlder had passed up the opportunity to remain in the land of the brave and the free.) Yet, according to Arguillas, Lingga's visa "had contained a notation 'to attend [the] Asia Society symposium' and waiver granted by DHS (Department of Homeland Security) 8/31/04 visa approved by State Department."

Arquillas tells how, from Manila to the US, and on all subsequent US domestic flights, "Lingga took the longest during the check-in process but his boarding passes were eventually handed to him." On that return flight from San Francisco, former congressman Datu Michael Mastura, Lingga's traveling companion, decided to stay with Lingga; even though his travel documents posed no problem, he was himself detained and interrogated. Both men's suitcases were searched. After numerous calls were able to fly home the next day.

The Asia Society symposium itself was a success, providing a much-needed airing of the root causes of the Mindanao conflict-as well as a lesson on how to deal with age-old, seemingly irresolvable issues: talk, talk, and more talk. As one participant put it, it's better to spend a thousand nights arguing than to spend one day shooting. (Scheherazade, whose spellbinding tales extended her life, must have inspired this thought.) The views of the Mindanaoans made it clear that it isn't faith that is being contested; rather, as Lingga pointed out, the nature of the problem is political and social. It is about land, resources, and empowerment. Not coincidentally, as a World Bank representative stressed, five of the country's poorest provinces are in Southern Mindanao, Ayesah Abubakar, of the

Young Moro Professionals and now an academic at a Malaysian university, emphasized that "we need to strengthen not just peace-keeping but peace-making." Under that rubric, a whole host of issues was discussed, from negotiations between the MILF and Manila, and the global war on terror, to the refugee question, the role of the international community in relation to Mindango, and the perceptions and news coverage of Mindanao and the Moros.

What rendered much of the day's discussion compelling was the experience of the Moros on hand, all of whom had family members or friends or both who had either been killed, tortured, or harassed by paramilitaries or government forces. All spoke of experiencing discrimination and stereotyping as they grew up, strangers in their own land, a land that presents itself inaccurately as a monolithic cultural and religious entity.

The consensus of the gathered-academics, international aid agency and NGO representatives, former diplomats, a few interested individuals, some journalists, and a Philippine embassy official-was against militarization, for such a strategy, whether in Mindanao or the Middle East, only begets more violence. (As Arguillas reminded us, US forces are still in Mindanao, still conducting joint exercises with the Philippine military.) One of the speakers, Steven Muncy, executive director of Community and Family Services International-a nonprofit that works with displaced persons in the strife-torn areas-discussed the human cost of the Mindanao conflict, saying that at least 900,000 people had been displaced by the fighting. He repeated the slogan of a Mindanao NGO: "Arms are for hugging."

Yet, there was some naïveté as well. When a New York-based Maranao woman asked whether, in light of the continuing presence of US forces in Mindanao, a US base would be built, there was some laughter, with a United States Institute of Peace representative commenting, "Old rumors die hard." She might have been simply unaware that, under current military agreements between the two countries, the US has in fact access to the Philippine military's bases and ports, rendering the whole archipelago a virtual base for the US. Just as important, the US is allowed to erect temporary structures (with "temporary" loosely defined) on Philippine soit.

While the problem of securing and maintaining the peace in Mindanao remains to be resolved between the Moros and the overwhelmingly Christian Manila government, the United States, whether we like it or not, plays a major role. At the same time, it is itself part of the problem, due to its colonialist history in the Philippines, the presence of its soldiers on Philippine soil, and, overall, a schizophrenic foreign policy that trumpets the virtues of a pluralist democracy but reacts dismissively to ageold movements that bear legitimate grievances against central governments. Particularly under the current administration that has shown itself partial to evangelical Christian movements, the US worldview continues to be burdened, in a way reminiscent of the sword and the cross, by the implicit belief in Via Americana as the best option for the rest of the globe, even if it means spreading it by the gun-an approach that foments rather than discourages violence, and abets tragedy when it can be avoided.





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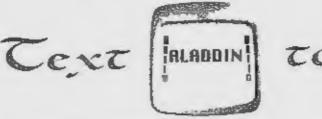
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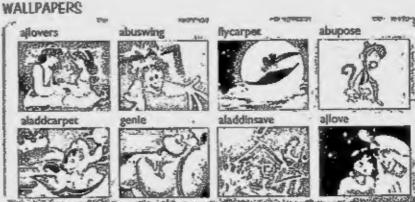
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